

BLACK DIAMOND
WESTERN

APRIL
NO. 55

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN

LEV GLEASON PUBLISHED AND EDITED



The image features a dense background collage of vintage comic book covers. Titles visible include "Supermouse", "JETTA", "MYSTERY COMICS", "FANTASTIC TALES", "COSMO CAT", "STARTLING COMICS", "STRANGE MYSTERIES", "DARING ADVENTURES", "FAMOUS FUNNIES", "HILARIOUS RAUCOUS", "TEEN-AGE SWEETHEART OF THE 21st CENTURY", "DUCK", "EERIE", "EXCITING COMICS", "CASPER CAT", "BARNYARD COMICS", and "STRANGE WORLDS". The covers depict various genres including superhero action, mystery, science fiction, and humor. Overlaid on this collage is a large, dark purple speech bubble with a thick black outline. Inside the bubble, the text "WEB COMIC UNIVERSE.COM" is written in a bold, white, sans-serif font with a slight drop shadow effect.

It's Great Fun to **PLAY A GUITAR**

**BOB
ATCHER,**
Famous
Recording Star of
Radio and Television

**SENSATIONAL NEW
"PICTURE WAY"**

**SHOWS HOW TO PLAY GUITAR
in 10 DAYS or YOUR MONEY BACK**

**48 PHOTOS
Show EXACTLY
Where to Put
Your Fingers**

**OVER 100
SONGS
Words & Music
INCLUDED**

I've discovered a brand new way of showing folks how to play the Guitar... and I guarantee to **SHOW YOU** in just 10 days. It's done with pictures, 48 actual photos that show you exactly how to do the fingering, strumming, etc. You don't have to study a lot of printed words like you do in most courses. With my home-teaching course, it's mostly a matter of just doing what you see being shown in the pictures. It's the easiest and best way that anybody's ever seen. Even if you've never held a Guitar in your hand before, my New "PICTURE WAY" will show you how to play. Experienced players, even other professional entertainers have told me that this "PICTURE WAY" improves their playing.

What's more, you get the words and music for over 100 songs that I've picked for their radio and television popularity. Sing and play along with your favorite records, radio and television programs.
DON'T DELAY! Start TODAY!

**PLAY BEAUTIFUL MUSIC IN 10 DAYS
OR YOUR MONEY BACK!**

I'm so sure that my New "PICTURE WAY" can show **EVERYONE HOW TO PLAY** the Guitar, that I'm giving you this **IRONCLAD GUARANTEE** — If you are not playing beautiful music on your Guitar 10 days after you receive the new Bob Atcher Home Teaching Course, return the course to me and get your money back. Could anything be fairer?

SEND NO MONEY!

Just send your name and address to BOB ATCHER. Pay the postman only \$1.69 plus C.O.D. and postage 10¢ send \$1.69 with the order and I'll pay the postage! Start playing beautiful chords the very first day. Be playing music in 10 days or your money back.

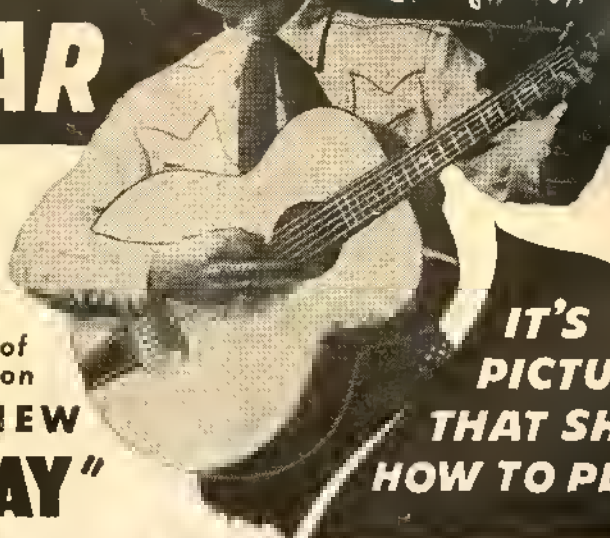
Bob Atcher, Studio 103, 75 E. Wacker Drive, Chicago 1, Ill.

Bob Atcher's OWN Guitar Borgoin

NOW you can own a Guitar that Bob Atcher personally selected to offer to you as **AMERICA'S BEST GUITAR** value, **ONLY \$19.95**. Send \$2.00 Deposit. Pay balance on delivery.

Write me Today — Address: **BOB ATCHER, Studio B,
75 East Wacker Drive CHICAGO 1, ILLINOIS**

*and its so
Easy, too!*



**IT'S THE
PICTURES
THAT SHOW
HOW TO PLAY**

**CAN YOU Hold Your
Fingers LIKE
THIS?**



**WHY NOT
Play the
Guitar?**

**MAIL THIS
COUPON
NOW!**

Write me Today —

**BOB ATCHER, Studio 103
75 East Wacker Drive CHICAGO 1, ILLINOIS**

Please send me, by return mail, one of your new "Picture Way" Home Teaching Guitar Courses. I will pay postman \$1.69 plus C.O.D. and postage. (Or send \$1.69 with order and you pay postage.) I understand that you will refund my \$1.69 if I am not playing beautiful music 10 days after I receive it.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____ RFD _____ BOX _____

CITY _____ STATE _____

BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN is published bi-monthly by **LEV GLEASON PUBLICATIONS, INC.**, 114 East 32nd St., New York 16, N. Y. Levrett S. Gleason, Publisher and Editor, E. A. Piller, Advertising Rep. Editorial and business offices at 114 East 32nd St., New York 16, N. Y., U. S. A. Advertising office at 28 East 1st St., Mt. Vernon, N. Y. Reentered as second-class matter at the Post Office at New York, N. Y. Additional entry at Syracuse, N. Y. Single copies 10¢; yearly subscription in U. S. A. \$6.00. Copyright 1955 by **LEV GLEASON PUBLICATIONS, INC.** Printed in the U. S. A. April, 1955. Vol. 1, No. 55. The publisher is not responsible for unsolicited manuscripts. Manuscripts accompanied by self-addressed, stamped envelopes will be returned. **SALE OR DISTRIBUTION OF COVERLESS COPIES OF THIS MAGAZINE IS UNAUTHORIZED AND ILLEGAL.**

BLACK DIAMOND

in REDMAN'S VENGEANCE

THE NEWS SPREAD LIKE WILDFIRE, AS THE STREETS OF ADOBE FLATS GREW OMINOUSLY SILENT AND DEVOID OF LIFE. **BLACK DIAMOND WAS IN TOWN**, AND THE LONG AWAITED SHOWDOWN WITH BAT SLADE AND HIS KILLERS WAS AT HAND.



RIDE WITH BLACK DIAMOND
AND BUMPER AS THEY GALLOP TO
ANOTHER EXCITING ADVENTURE
OF THE OLD WEST!



STORY & ART
PETE
MORISI

YORE CRAZY, DIAMOND?
CRAZY? IT'S THREE
AGIN' ONE, WE'LL SHOOT
YUH TO DOLL RAGS.

FILL YOUR HANDS,
COYOTES, I'M
WAITIN' ON YOU.

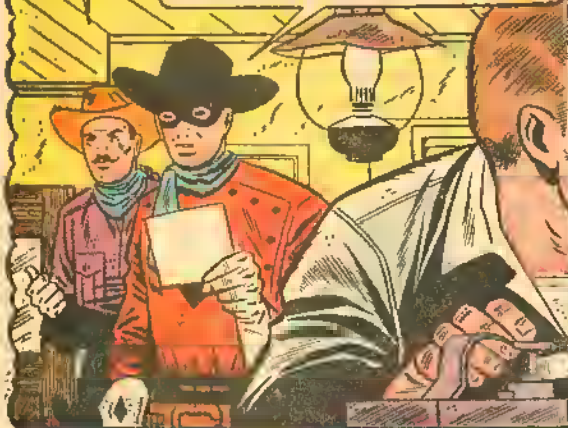


BLACK DIAMOND STANDS READY, A COLD METHODICAL LOOK IN HIS EYES, ALERT FOR THE FIRST MOVE THAT WOULD BRING HIS GUNS INTO PLAY. AND IN THE BRIEF SECONDS BEFORE ANYTHING OCCURS, HIS MIND RACES BACK... BACK TO THE BEGINNING...



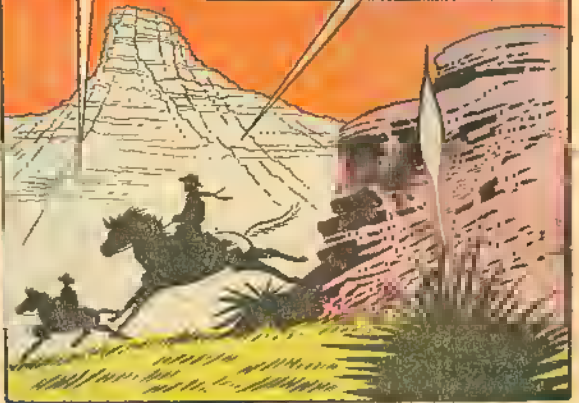
WHAT IS IT, DIAMOND? TROUBLE?

BAD TROUBLE, BUMPER. IT'S FROM SHERIFF JED BLAKE. HE NEEDS OUR HELP. RED DEER AND HIS TRIBE ARE GETTIN' READY TO GO ON THE WARPATH. **LET'S GO.**



ISN'T THIS RED DEER A FRIEND OF YOURS, DIAMOND?

THAT'S RIGHT, BUMPER. HE PRACTICALLY RAISED ME FROM CHILDHOOD. HIS SON, BRAVE CLOUD, AND I WERE BROUGHT UP AS BROTHERS TOGETHER. **SCRATCH DUST, RELIAPON!**



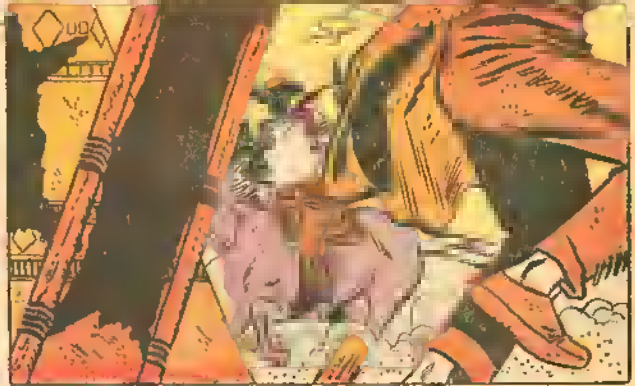
A DAY LATER, IN THE TOWN OF ADOBE FLATS.

BUT WHY, JED? RED DEER HAS ALWAYS BEEN AT PEACE WITH THE WHITE MAN. WHY WOULD HE TURN HOSTILE NOW?

THERE'S YORE ANSWER, BLACK DIAMOND, IN THE FORM OF A TWO-LEGGED POLECAT NAMED **BAT SLADE.**



THINGS WERE GOIN' ALONG RIGHT PEACEFUL-LIKE, DIAMOND, THAT IS, UNTIL SLADE GOT WIND OF A RICH GOLD VEIN LOCATED ON THE INJUN RESERVATION. SINCE THEN, HE'S BEEN CAUSIN' TROUBLE, HOPIN' TO START A FRACAS THAT WOULD WIPE RED DEER AND HIS TRIBE OUT, SO'S HE CAN GET AT THAT GOLD.



SO NOW, RED DEER WANTS TO GO ON THE WARPATH, EH? CAN'T SAY AS I BLAME HIM MUCH. BUT TELL ME JED, AS SHERIFF OF ADOBE FLATS, WHY HAVEN'T YOU BROUGHT SLADE IN?

CAN'T, BLACK DIAMOND. I'D BE A FOOL TO TACKLE HIM, AS LONG AS HIS GUNSLINGERS ARE WITH HIM. AN' HE DON'T DO NOTHIN' WITHOUT 'EM.



BUMPER AND I ARE RIDING OUT TO RED DEER'S CAMP. MAYBE HELL LISTEN TO REASON. IN THE MEANTIME, GET WORD TO BAT SLADE AND HIS SIDEKICKS, **AND TELL THEM I'LL BE BACK!**



HOURS LATER, BLACK DIAMOND AND BUMPER WERE DEEP IN INDIAN TERRITORY.

I DON'T LIKE THIS, DIAMOND. SOMETHING IS WRONG. I CAN FEEL IT.

YOU'RE RIGHT, THE DRUMS HAVE STOPPED. THE WAR COUNCIL IS OVER, WE'RE TOO LATE!



THE TWO HORSEMEN SOON ARRIVED AT THE INDIAN CAMP AND, THE REUNION OF OLD FRIENDS WAS SET ASIDE, AS BLACK DIAMOND TOLD HIS STORY. BUT HIS WORDS FELL UPON DEAF EARS.

ONCE WE ROAMED THE PLAINS, A PROUD AND FREE PEOPLE. THEN, THE WHITE MAN CAME AND DROVE US FROM OUR LANDS. WE HAVE BEEN FORCED TO LIVE WITHIN ANOTHER MAN'S LAWS, AND SPAT UPON BY RENEGADES WHO WOULD SEE US DESTROYED. WE ARE NOT CATTLE TO BE LED TO THE SLAUGHTER. THE TIME TO ARISE IS NOW!



YOU FORCE ME, MY CHIEF, TO MAKE A DECISION WHICH WILL HANG HEAVY WITH ME FOR THE REST OF MY DAYS. IN ACCORDANCE WITH TRIBAL LAWS, I NOW CLAIM THE RIGHT OF MORTAL COMBAT, THE OUTCOME TO DECIDE THE COURSE YOUR PEOPLE WILL TAKE.

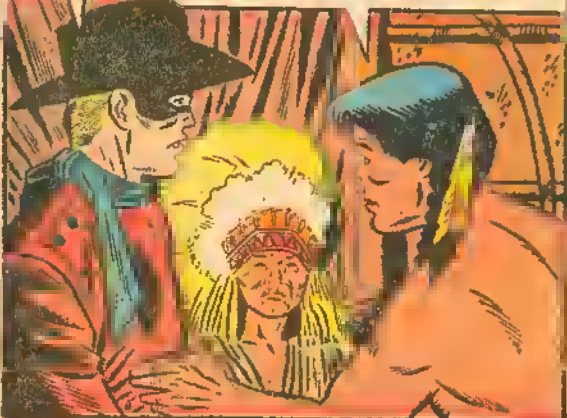


YOUR CLAIM SADDENS ME, DIAMOND, BUT IT CANNOT BE REFUSED. TRIBAL LAWS ALSO DECREE THAT ONLY THE BRAVEST OF THE TRIBE CAN ENGAGE IN SUCH A COMBAT, AND THERE IS NO ONE HERE THAT SURPASSES THE COURAGE OF BRAVE CLOUD, MY SON!



BRAVE CLOUD? BUT I CAN'T... I MEAN...

IT IS WELL, MY BROTHER, I KNOW WHAT IS IN YOUR HEART, BUT THE TIME HAS PASSED FOR WORDS. THE DESTINY OF A PEOPLE RESTS ON OUR SHOULDERS, SO PREPARE TO FIGHT WELL.

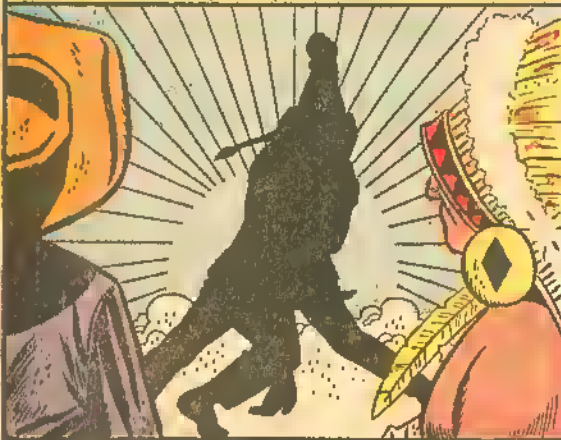


LATER, ATOP THUNDER RIDGE, WHERE THE BATTLE IS TO TAKE PLACE, A SAD CHIEFTAIN GIVES THE WORD FOR THE BATTLE TO BEGIN.

THE TIME IS AT HAND, MY SONS. MAY THE GODS WATCH OVER YOU BOTH. COMMENCE!



THE MASKED MAN AND THE INDIAN BRAVE LOCK IN COMBAT, EACH RESPECTING THE OTHER'S GREAT STRENGTH. THE SECONDS TICK BY INTO AN ETERNITY OF MINUTES, AS THE BATTLE, AT FIRST GOES ONE WAY, AND THEN, ANOTHER.

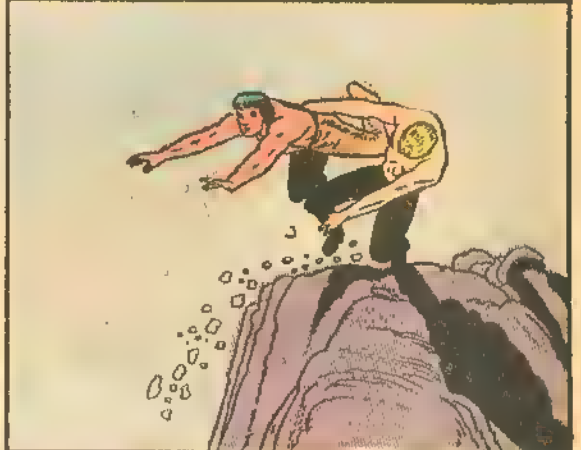
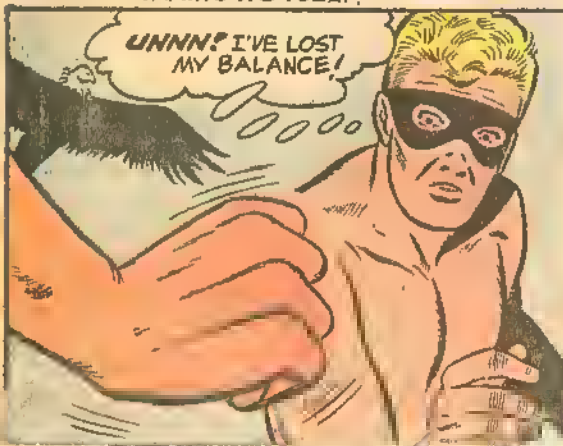


TIME AND TIME AGAIN EACH MAN ATTEMPTS VICTORY, BUT BOTH MEN HAVE BEEN TAUGHT WELL; NEITHER GIVES GROUND. THE BATTLE IS AN EQUAL ONE, AND ONLY ENDURANCE AND STAMINA, WOULD DETERMINE THE OUTCOME.



AN HOUR PASSES, THEN TWO, AS THE FATE OF A PEOPLE HANGS IN THE BALANCE. MUSCLES TIRE UNDER MERCILESS PUNISHMENT AS BOTH MEN BEGIN TO WEAKEN. THE SILENT STRUGGLE WAS TAKING ITS TOLL.

SEEING HIS ADVANTAGE, BRAVE CLOUD LUNGES WILDLY FOR HIS MASKED OPPONENT, ONLY TO BE CAUGHT IN A STEEL-LIKE GRIP THAT SENDS THEM BOTH TOWARD THE PRECIPICE.



BOTH COMBATANTS HURL DOWNWARD INTO THE WATERS BELOW, BUT THE STRUGGLE CONTINUES, FOR ONLY ONE CAN EMERGE VICTORIOUS.

FOR A MOMENT THE WATER THRASHES WILDLY ABOUT, AND THEN, SUDDENLY, ALL IS CALM. THE BATTLE IS OVER.

AND BLACK DIAMOND IS THE VICTOR.

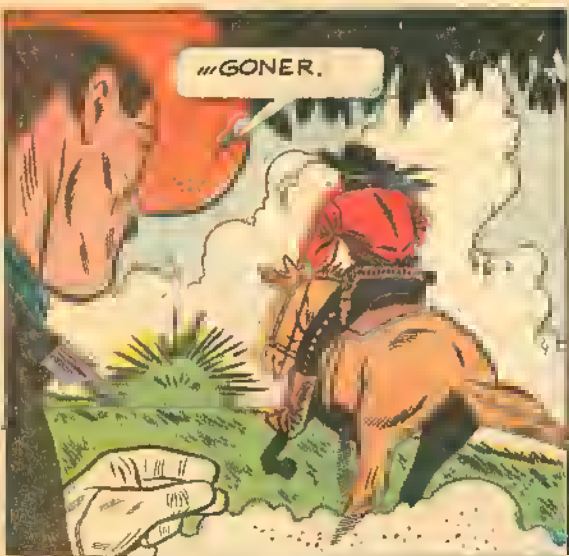
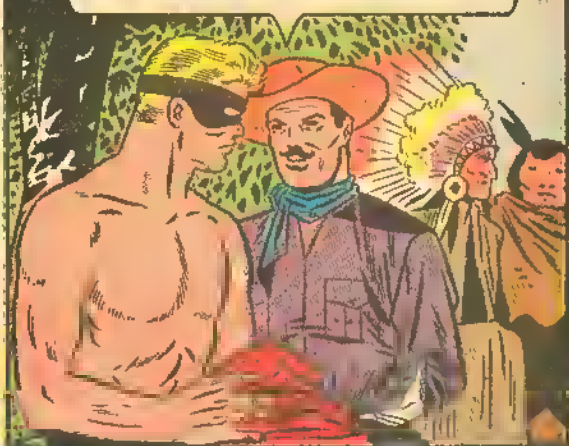


THE WESTERN CHAMPION KNEELS BY THE WATERS EDGE, AND MUTTERS A SILENT PRAYER FOR HIS INDIAN BLOOD BROTHER. A TWIST OF FATE HAD MADE THEM ENEMIES, AND THE INDIAN HAD DIED FOR WHAT HE BELIEVED TO BE RIGHT. NOW, THERE WAS ONLY ONE THING LEFT TO DO.



SOON, BUMPER, RED DEER, AND HIS TRIBE ARRIVE UPON THE SCENE.

MAN, DIAMOND, YOU SURE GAVE ME A SCARE. I THOUGHT YOU WERE A



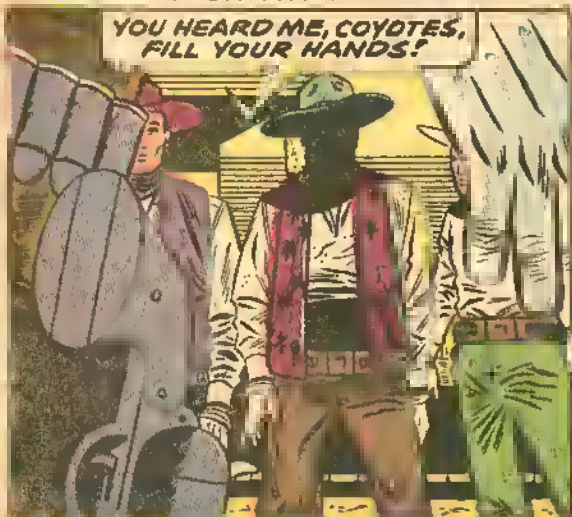
“GONER.”

BUMPER'S WORDS GO UNHEARD, AS BLACK DIAMOND URGES HIS MOUNT IN THE DIRECTION OF ADOBE FLATS, A COLD GRIM LOOK IN HIS EYES. BAT SLADE AND HIS KILLERS WOULD PAY DEARLY FOR BRAVE CLOUD'S DEATH.



THAT'S THE WAY IT HAD BEEN. AND NOW, THE SHOWDOWN WAS AT HAND.

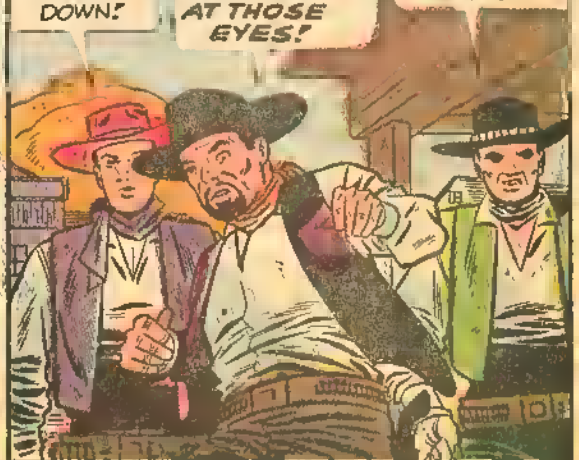
YOU HEARD ME, COYOTES, FILL YOUR HANDS!



WHAT'RE YOU WAITIN' FOR, BOSS, LET'S GUN 'IM DOWN!

I "I CAN'T." H "HE MUST BE LOCO. THOSE EYES "LOOK AT THOSE EYES!"

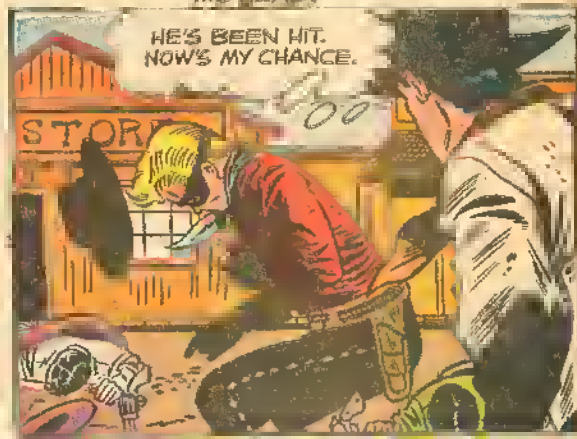
WELL, WE AINT AFRAID. LET'S TAKE 'IM BILLY!



THE ECHO OF GUNFIRE SHATTERS THE SILENCE OF ADOBE FLATS, AS BLACK DIAMOND'S GUNS RIP OUT A ROAR OF DEATH.



AS THE SMOKE CLEARED TWO GUNSLINGERS LAY DEAD ON THE GROUND. ONLY BLACK DIAMOND AND BAT SLADE REMAINED. BUT THEN, SUDDENLY, THE MASKED MAN'S KNEES BUCKLED, AND HE FELL FORWARD, A NASTY WOUND ON THE SIDE OF HIS HEAD.



HA-HA-HA! NOW IT'S MY TURN, DIAMOND. AN' I'M BLASTIN' YOU TO BOOT HILL, LIKE ALL THE OTHER HOMBRES THAT TRIED TO TACKLE BAT SLADE. HA-HA-HA! ONE!!! TWO!!!



THREE!!! UNNNNNN??



RED DEER! BUMPER! HOW!!!?

RED DEER AND I FIGURED YOU MIGHT BE NEEDIN' SOME HELP RIGHT ABOUT NOW, DIAMOND. GUESS WE FIGURED RIGHT, EH?



HOURS LATER, BACK AT THE INDIAN CAMP.

GO IN PEACE, MY SON, FOR MY PEOPLES VENGEANCE IS COMPLETE. THE WHITE RENEGADES THAT WOULD SEE US DESTROYED, ARE NO MORE. AND TAKE WITH YOU, BLACK DIAMOND, THE THANKS OF A NATION UNITED!!!
YOURS AND MINE!



The END

THROUGHOUT THE AGES, VISIONS OF BURIED TREASURE HAVE LED GREEDY MEN TO COMMIT ACTS OF MAYHEM AND MURDER. IN THE WESTERN COUNTRY LIES THE MOUNTAINOUS REGION OF ARIZONA. MOVING ACROSS THE ROCKY INFERNO, COMES BLACK DIAMOND, ON THE TRAIL OF BURIED TREASURE... SEEKING FOR A MYTH, WONDERING IF THERE IS ANY TRUTH BEHIND THE STRANGE LEGEND OF..

The Devil's Drum!

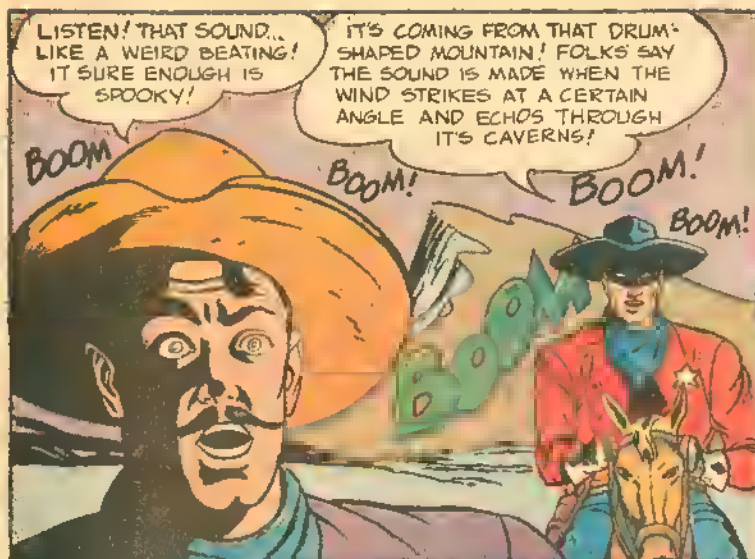


ONE EVENING AS TWILIGHT BLANKETS THE PRAIRIE, BLACK DIAMOND AND BUMPER RODE INTO A MYSTERIOUS VALLEY. OUT OF THE EERIE BLACKNESS, LOOMED A WEIRD MOUNTAIN...

I RECKON THIS IS LONELIEST COUNTRY I'VE EVER SEEN! LOOK AT THE SHAPE OF THAT MOUNTAIN... IT'S LIKE A GIANT DRUM!

THERE'S MANY A STRANGE TALE ABOUT THAT MOUNTAIN. THE INDIANS CALL IT THE DEVIL'S DRUM!





LISTEN! THAT SOUND...
LIKE A WEIRD BEATING!
IT SURE ENOUGH IS
SPOOKY!

IT'S COMING FROM THAT DRUM-
SHAPED MOUNTAIN! FOLKS SAY
THE SOUND IS MADE WHEN THE
WIND STRIKES AT A CERTAIN
ANGLE AND ECHOS THROUGH
ITS CAVERNS!



BUT, THE BLACKFOOT INDIANS
CLAIM ITS THEIR GREAT SPIRIT,
MANITOU BEATING A DEATH
CHANT. THEY SAY THAT WHEN
THE DRUM SOUNDS, SOMEONE
WILL DIE! IN THIS WAY,
MANITOU PROTECTS THE LONG
LOST TREASURE OF THE TRIBE.
SUCH TO BE HIDDEN SOMEWHERE
IN THE MOUNTAINS!



WELL, IT SOUNDS
LIKE A LOT OF
HOGWASH TO
ME

THAT SOUNDS
LIKE A SHOT!
LET'S GO.



LOOK, BLACK
DIAMOND! THERE'S
AN OLD GENT
LYING NEAR THAT
PILE OF ROCK. SEEMS
TO BE IN MIGHTY
BAD SHAPE!

WHO COULD'VE FIRED THAT
SHOT? DOESN'T SEEM
TO BE ANYBODY AROUND!



REST EASY,
OLD TIMER!
WHO DRY-
GULCHED
YOU?

UHHH... UHHH...
TREASURE...
DEVIL'S DRUM...
OOOH!...



HE'S DEAD! HE JUST
MUTTERED SOMETHING
THE DEVIL'S DRUM
AND A TREASURE!

ACCORDING TO THESE
PAPERS IN HIS WALLET,
HE WAS AN ARCHAE-
OLOGIST NAMED ALFRED
CRANTON. WE BETTER
NOTIFY THE SHERIFF!



I DUNNO... THIS KILLING HAS ME BUFFALOED! PROFESSOR CRANTON CAME TO ME FOR PERMISSION TO GO EXPLORING IN THE MOUNTAINS, WHO'D WANT TO HARM THE OLD MAN?

COULD BE, IF WE KNEW WHAT HE WAS LOOKING FOR, WE'D HAVE A CLUE TO THE IDENTITY OF HIS KILLER!



I TELL YOU, MARSHAL! I WARNED HIM NOT TO GO SNOOPING IN THOSE MOUNTAINS! BUT HE JUST PLUMB WOULD'N'T LISTEN TO ME.

WHAT PART DO YOU HAVE IN THIS?

THAT'S LUKE. HE DOES ODD JOBS AROUND TOWN! BUT PAY HIM NO MIND, HE AIN'T QUITE RIGHT IN THE HEAD!



I HEARD YOU TELL HIM, SHERIFF. YOU THINK I'M CRAZY! BUT I TOLD HIM, I TOLD HIM...

TOLD HIM WHAT, LUKE?

DON'T LISTEN TO HIM, BLACK DIAMOND! HE'S AS BATTY AS A HOOTOWL!



IT'S THE GHOST OF THEM DEAD INJUNS ACTING UP! EVERYBODY WHO GOES LOOKIN' FOR THAT TREASURE ENDS UP ON BOOT HILL!

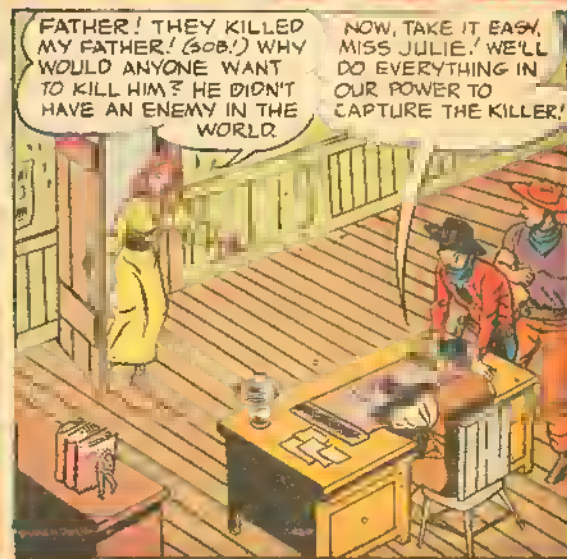
THAT'S ENOUGH OF THAT FOOLISH PALAVER! YOU GET OUT OF HERE!

GO EASY ON HIM, SHERIFF!



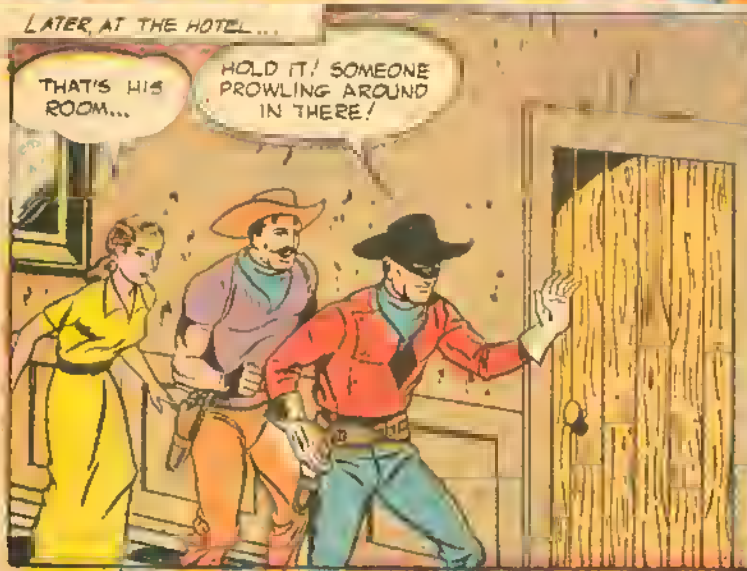
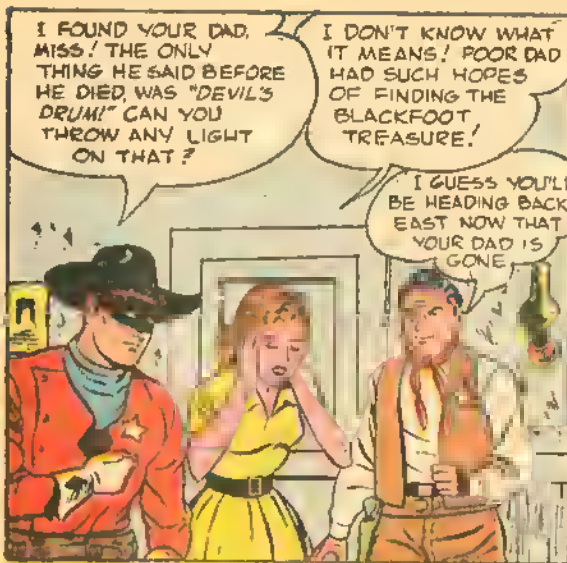
YOU'LL SEE IT'S TRUE! I'M GETTING OUTTA HERE, PRONTO!

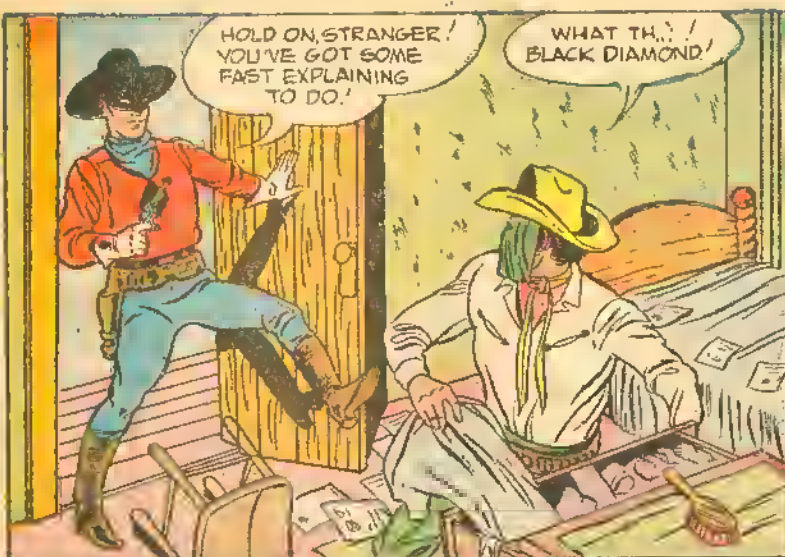
HE GOES ALL OVER TOWN SPREADING THEM FOOLISH GHOST STORIES!



FATHER! THEY KILLED MY FATHER! (sob.) WHY WOULD ANYONE WANT TO KILL HIM? HE DIDN'T HAVE AN ENEMY IN THE WORLD.

NOW, TAKE IT EASY, MISS JULIE! WE'LL DO EVERYTHING IN OUR POWER TO CAPTURE THE KILLER!



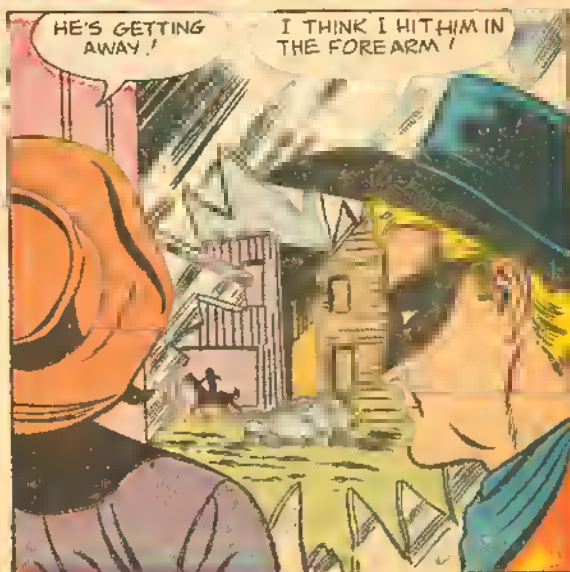


GUNS BARK...

BLACK DIAMOND'S AIM IS TRUE! HIS BULLET HITS THE MARK... AND THE KILLER IS WINGED...



WITH FANATICAL SPEED, THE KILLER HURLED HIMSELF FORWARD THROUGH THE WINDOW...



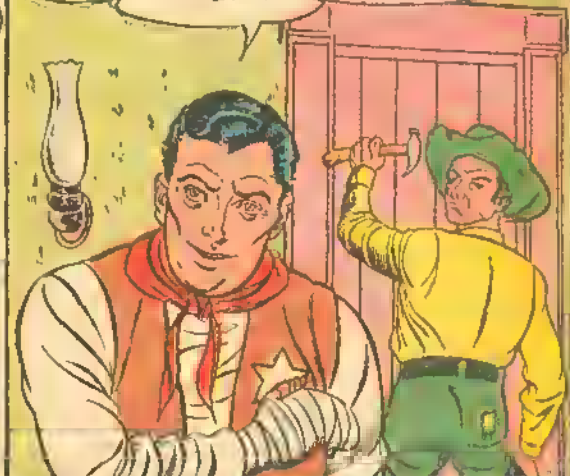
BACK AT THE SHERIFFS OFFICE, THEY REPORT THE INCIDENT...

PROFESSOR CRANTON'S ROOM WAS RANSACKED, BUT WE TUSSELED WITH THE KILLER!

HOW COME YOUR ARM'S ALL BANDAGED UP, SHERIFF?



OH, THIS? I WAS CLEANING MY RIFLE... CAN'T UNDERSTAND HOW IT BACKFIRED THOUGH!



I THINK I'VE GOT SOME CLUES TO THE LOCATION OF THE TREASURE FROM PROFESSOR CRANTON'S RECORDS! WE'RE RIDING OVER TO DEVIL'S DRUM NOW. TO FIND OUT FOR SURE!



WITH SHERIFF REEVES TO SEE THEM OFF, BLACK DIAMOND, BUMPER AND JULIE CRANTON HIT THE TRAIL FOR DEVIL'S DRUM...



THEY ARRIVED SHORTLY AFTER SUNSET...

LET'S BED DOWN RIGHT HERE AND WE'LL LOOK AROUND FIRST THING IN THE MORNING...

SURE IS CREEPY HEREABOUTS!



SOON, UNDER THE BLACK MOONLESS SKY, THE PARTY IS FAST ASLEEP...

BEEN WAITING A LONG TIME TO GET YOU, BLACK DIAMOND! I'LL FIX YOUR WAGON!



THAT BLACK DIAMOND IS A
HARD MAN..... BUT THIS
BOULDER'LL START AN AVALANCHE

SUDDENLY, RELIAPON
SENSES SOMETHING IS WRONG
AND BEGINS TO REAR UP...



WHOA! WHAT'S UP?
SOME MUST'VE DISTURB-
ED RELIAPON!

THERE'S DIRTY WORK BREWING
UP THERE...THAT MURDERING
COYOTE IS GOING TO START A
LANDSLIDE ANY MINUTE
NOW..

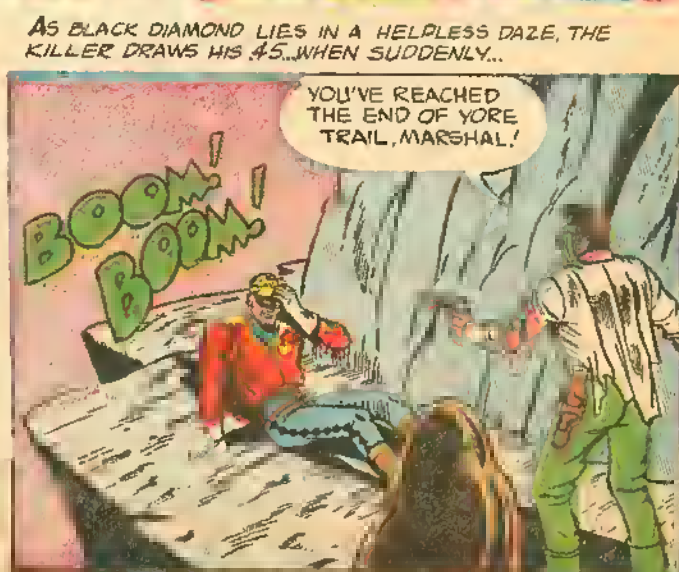
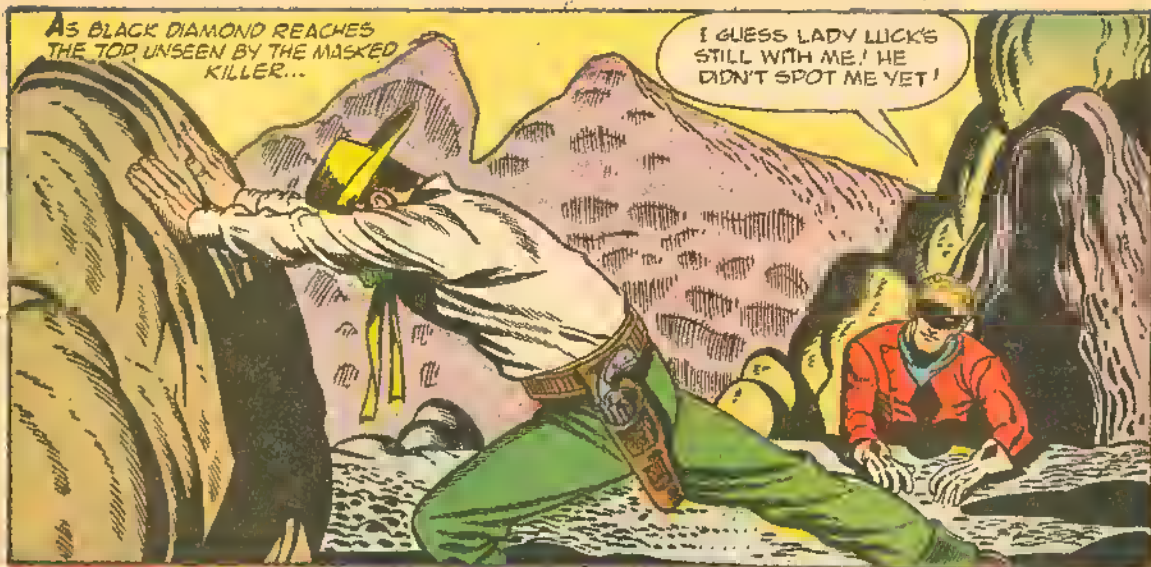
GATHERING EVERY OUNCE OF STRENGTH AND INDOMITABLE COURAGE, BLACK DIAMOND BEGINS
THE SLOW, GONIZING CLIMB UP THE MOUNTAIN TO STOP THE MENACING KILLER...

GOT TO GET UP
THERE

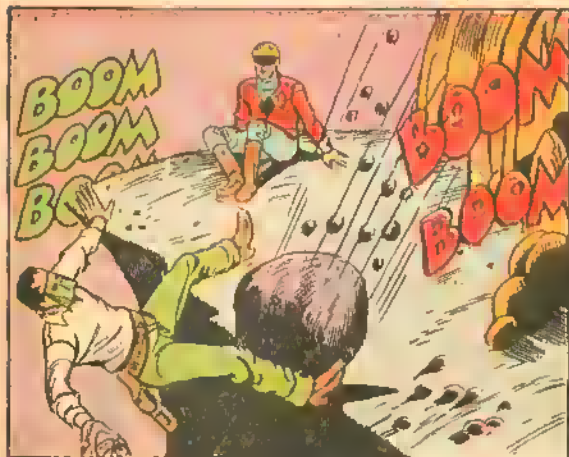
...AND STOP HIM!

BEFORE HE LOOSENS
THAT BOULDER...

...AND KILLS US ALL!



THE DEVIL'S DRUM BEATS. THE VIBRATIONS CAUSE A GIANT BOULDER TO BREAK LOOSE, TAKING WITH IT THE KILLER, STANDING IN ITS PATH, OVER THE EDGE OF THE CLIFF...



MINUTES LATER, BLACK DIAMOND SCAMPERS DOWN TO FIND BUMPER AND JULIE WITH THE DYING MURDERER



THE REMOVAL OF THE MASK BRINGS A STARTLING DISCOVERY...



WITH HIS LAST BREATH, THE DYING MAN CONFESSES...



LOOK, BLACK DIAMOND! HE'S GOT A BULLET WOUND ON HIS ARM! YOU DID WING HIM AT THE HOTEL AND TO THINK, I SUSPECTED SHERIFF REEVES BECAUSE OF HIS BANDAGED ARM!



LATER, BACK IN TOWN...



BLACK DIAMOND AND BUMPER GET READY TO RIDE OUT...



BLACK DIAMOND TURNS AND SMILES A FAREWELL...



THE END

Barque EMMA ISIDORA,

Will leave about the 15th of February. This vessel will be filled in the very best manner and is one of the fastest sailing vessels that ever came this way.

Each member gets 400 shares and is entitled to an equal proportion of all profits made by the company, whether in money or kind, and holds an equal share of all the property belonging to the company. The whole of the 400 shares is transferred to the agent and he is thereby enabled to deliver the 400 shares to the company. It is not necessary to deliver any writing or other document to the agent and the agent is not bound to deliver any writing or other document to the company.

This is **mapcar** - it is used to fill a 0 by n array with n copies of the appropriate word under the **do-outer** application.

For Freight and Passage apply to **JOHN W. ALFORD**, Agents & Shippers, 127 West 42d St., New York, or to the nearest Agents.
JAMES H. PRINCE, Agent,
 43 Ninth Street, corner of Broadway N.Y., Boston.
 For further Particulars see the advertisement.

BY

"THE BLACK DIAMOND"

Many of us today, who thrill to read about the "Old West," have never had the chance to know how it all started.

All the exciting movies and stories about frontier days, cattle rustlers, bank robbers, stagecoach srick-ups, the bad men like the James boys, the Younger brothers, Belle Stark, Annie Oakley and all the rest came later —much later.

Until a certain exciting discovery, there were probably no more than 20,000 people in the far West, not counting Indians. And then in 1848 came news which spread around the world and brought nearly 300,000 people to California, brought them from all parts of the United States and from England, France, China, South America and even from far off Australia. Amazing, in those days without any modern communication that word of huge gold strikes would spread so fast.

It all happened in the strangest way. In 1848 nobody was quite sure to whom California belonged. Mexico considered most of the Northwest hers. Many Americans expected it to become part of the United States of America. Meanwhile, an empire builder named Sutter had come from Switzerland, gotten a huge grant of land from Mexico, and started to build an empire of which he hoped to be king. He employed a handful of Americans and Mexicans and a lot of Indians as workers to build this empire and among the big projects he had under-way was a sawmill.

When the sawmill was about one-half completed, his foreman, James W. Marshall, discovered something shiny on the bedrock under a stream of water, which was planned as the source of power for the sawmill. It shone like gold. Marshall reached down and picked up a huge nugget.

Was it gold? Marshall had no way of telling, but he put it in a kettle of lye, which was being boiled to make soap. The shiny

metal was boiled all day and when it did not tarnish in the boiling lye, Marshall was certain he had found gold.

That was the end of the sawmill, for none of the workers would stay on the job. All rushed to pan gold. The word spread and some thousands of people in California and Mexico poured into the neighborhood to look for the treasure.

Within a year, one quarter of a million people from all over the world were pushing toward California to share in the fabulous fortune. Many chartered sailing vessels to make the trip which had to go from Eastern ports, like Boston and New York, all the way around Cape Horn, the southern tip of South America, and then all the way up to San Francisco. Others sailed to what is now known as the Isthmus of Panama, then fought their way through the jungle, hoping to catch a boat on the West Coast of Panama to carry them northward.

And just as many pushed their way over land by one route or another, across deserts, over mountains, fording huge and almost unknown rivers of the West.

Of these, thousands were killed by Indians, who resented the approach of the covered wagons and thousands more died in forlorn desert land of cholera. Many historians think at least 200,000 brave souls died before they reached the "Promised Land." These men and women, known as the Forty-Niners, found in California the most unbelievable conditions. Supplies were priced, because of great scarcity, at fabulously high prices. A pick and shovel, an outfit for panning gold, could sell for \$200. or \$300. A night's lodging could cost \$50. and a pound of bacon \$35. But you could buy in San Francisco harbor a huge sailing ship for \$5., because hundreds of ships were stranded. Everybody wanted to go West. There was no demand for a ship to go East.

There was no law and order until six or seven years later when vigilante committees were set up. The law of the land was the rifle and the pistol. Suspected persons were strung up by the neck without a trial.

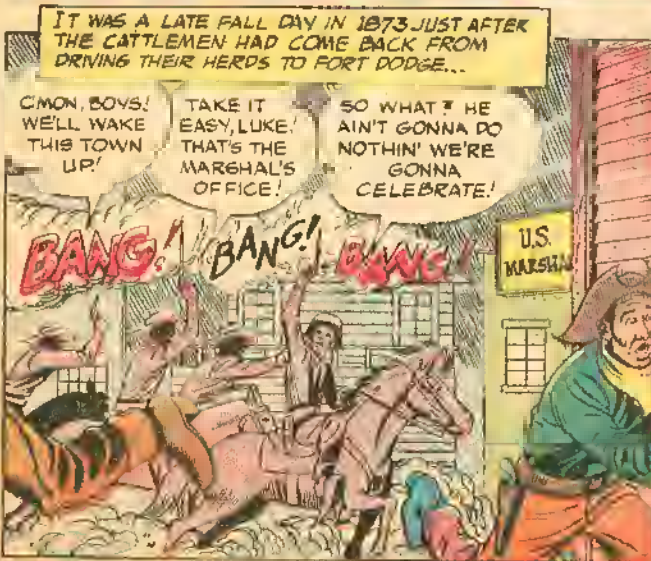
Millions of dollars in gold was discovered and some got rich. Those who got richest were not the prospectors who went out into the hills, but those who stayed in San Francisco to sell the necessities of life to the miners.

Never before or since has such a spirit of adventure ripped all America. Most of those who survived the trip found bitter disappointment, but some became millionaires.

The important thing, however, is that the gold-rush of 1849 started the great trek to the West—opened up the huge new empire—brought, through the years, millions upon millions of people to the Western states. The great cattle ranches, the great mining enterprises of Nevada and Arizona, the building of the huge Western cities all got their start from the brave souls who dared enormous peril to go West.

There would have been no cowboys, no cattle, no frontier life if the trail had not been blazed by the immortal Forty-Niners. Perhaps, I'll tell you more about these gold rush days in a later issue. I know because my paw was one of the first. Want to hear about those good old days?

THE WRONG KILLER





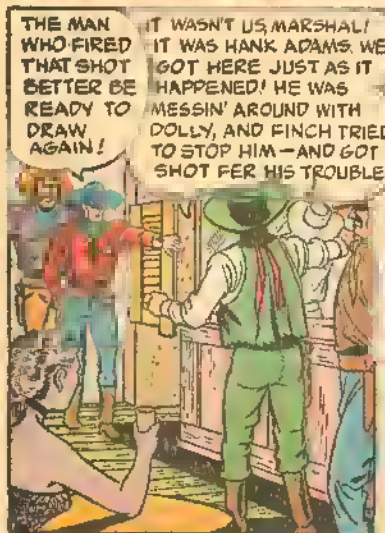
I RECKON THEY MUST'VE GONE INTO TH' DRY GULCH... DIAMOND! LOOK!

THEY DIDN'T WASTE MUCH TIME!



IT'S THAT SOB-
BUSTER—
MOSE FINCH!
HE'S DEAD!!

WE DON'T HAFTA LOOK FAR TO FIND THE KILLERS!



THE MAN WHO FIRED THAT SHOT BETTER BE READY TO DRAW AGAIN!

IT WASN'T US, MARSHAL! IT WAS HANK ADAMS. WE GOT HERE JUST AS IT HAPPENED! HE WAS MESSIN' AROUND WITH DOLLY, AND FINCH TRIED TO STOP HIM—AND GOT SHOT FER HIS TROUBLE



HE HIGH-TAILED IT OUT TH' BACK! SAID HE WAS HEADIN' FER THE HILLS, AND YOU'D NEVER FIND HIM!

C'MON, BUMPER—WE'VE GOT A RIDE AHEAD OF US!

HANK ADAMS WOULDN'T—



LUKE KELLEMS WAS LYING, DIAMOND! I CAN'T UNDERSTAND WHY YOU DIDN'T SEE IT!

I DID BUT I DIDN'T WANT HIM TO KNOW! IF LUKE WANTS TO PIN THIS ON HANK, HE'S GOING TO WANT HIM DEAD—AND I WANT TO KEEP HIM ALIVE. C'MON, HE HASN'T GOT MUCH OF A START!



HIS TRACKS HEAD THIS WAY—

THERE'S HIS HORSE, DIAMOND. HE MUST BE HOLED UP IN THAT CAVE!



C'MON OUT ADAMS—IT'S THE BLACK DIAMOND! I WANT TO TALK TO YOU!

I DON'T KEER WHO IT IS—FIRST MAN WHO STEPS INTO THIS CAVE'S GETTIN' SHOT! YOU'RE HANGIN' ME FOR ANY MURDER!



DON'T GO IN THERE, DIAMOND! HE'S LOCO ENOUGH TO KILL YOU!

DON'T BE A FOOL, ADAMS. I'M COMING IN AFTER YOU. THROW OUT YOUR GUN!

BANG!



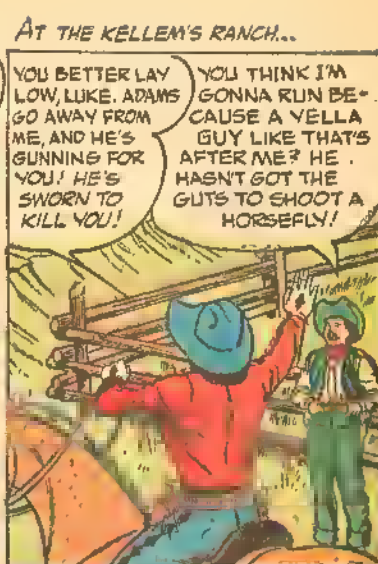
I WOULDN'T HAVE HIT YOU, DIAMOND! JUST WANTED TO SCARE YOU! I DIDN'T WANT 'EM TO HANG ME! I DON'T WANT TO DIE!

NOBODY'S GOING TO HANG YOU IF YOU TELL THE TRUTH, ADAMS. WHO KILLED FINCH?



IT WAS LUKE, BUT YOU'LL NEVER GET ANYBODY TO TESTIFY HE DONE IT. HE WANTS TO HANG IT ON ME. AND THEY'LL BACK HIM UP! HE TOLD ME TO RUN OR HELL SHOOT! THEY'LL KILL ME SURE!

THEY WON'T IF YOU KEEP OUT OF SIGHT! STAY OUT HERE 'TIL I SEND FOR YOU. I'LL HANDLE KELLEMS!



YOU BETTER LAY LOW, LUKE. ADAMS GO AWAY FROM ME, AND HE'S GUNNING FOR YOU! HE'S SWORN TO KILL YOU!

YOU THINK I'M GONNA RUN BE-CAUSE A VELLA GUY LIKE THAT'S AFTER ME? HE HASN'T GOT THE GUTS TO SHOOT A HORSEFLY!



THANKS FOR WARNING ME, MARSHAL! HAW-HAW!

I DON'T GET IT, DIAMOND!

I'M GOING TO MAKE LUKE SO SCARED HE'LL CONVICT HIMSELF! BART'S GOING TO CALL ON HIS GIRL TONIGHT, AND WE'RE GOING TO GET HIM!



I'LL GRAB HIM AROUND THE NECK AND YOU GAG HIM! MAKE SURE HE DOESN'T MAKE ANY NOISE. BUT DON'T HURT HIM!



TAKE IT EASY, SON! YOU'RE NOT GOING TO GET HURT!

PUT HIM IN JAIL, BUMPER.— I'M GOING TO SEE LUKE KELLEMS!



I'M SORRY TO HAVE TO BE THE ONE TO TELL YOU, LUKE. BUT SOMEBODY SHOT BART TONIGHT! I THINK IT WAS HANK ADAMS!

BART... DEAD? NO—HE COULDN'T BE! I'LL GET ADAMS FOR THAT— I'LL GET HIM!!



A FEW DAYS LATER...

SORRY, WYETH, BUT YOU'RE GOING TO HELP US— WHETHER YOU WANT TO TO OR NOT!



HE KILLED WYETH? NO...NO! YOU GOTTA STOP THAT KILLER, DIAMOND! HE'S GONNA GET US ALL!

WHY WOULD HE GUN FOR YOU, LUKE? WHAT DID YOU EVER DO TO HIM?



NOTHIN'... HE'S CRAZY! HE'S A LUNATIC! DON'T STAND AROUND HERE—GET HIM!!

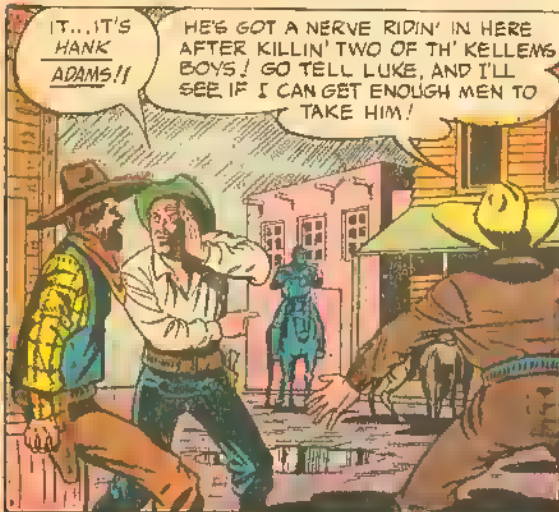
OKAY, LUKE! BUT BE CAREFUL! DON'T LET HIM GET THE DROP ON YOU!



HE'S SURE SCARED, DIAMOND. I NEVER THOUGHT I'D SEE THE DAY!

BULLIES LIKE LUKE KELLEMS ARE ALWAYS YELLOW IF YOU DIG DEEP ENOUGH! HE'S GONNA GET SCARED ENOUGH TO CRACK PRETTY SOON—AND THEN WE'LL GET THE TRUTH OUT OF HIM!

MEANWHILE, HANK ADAMS WAS GETTING RESTLESS...



IT...IT'S HANK ADAMS!!

HE'S GOT A NERVE RIDIN' IN HERE AFTER KILLIN' TWO OF TH' KELLEMS BOYS! GO TELL LUKE, AND I'LL SEE IF I CAN GET ENOUGH MEN TO TAKE HIM!



I CAN'T SET OUT THERE FOREVER! DIAMOND MUST'VE FORGOT TO TELL ME...

YOU KNOW WHAT WE WANT, ADAMS! YOU GOT A DATE WITH LUKE KELLEMS

WHA—? WHAT DO YOU WANT?



LET ME GO I DIDN'T DO NUTHIN'!

YOU'RE A YELLA LIAR, ADAMS! I'M GONNA TREAT YOU JUST THE WAY YOU TREATED MY BROTHERS!



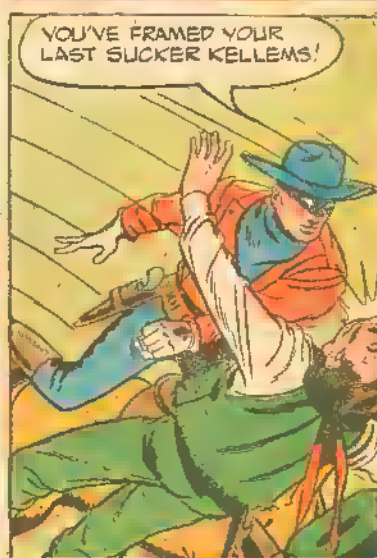
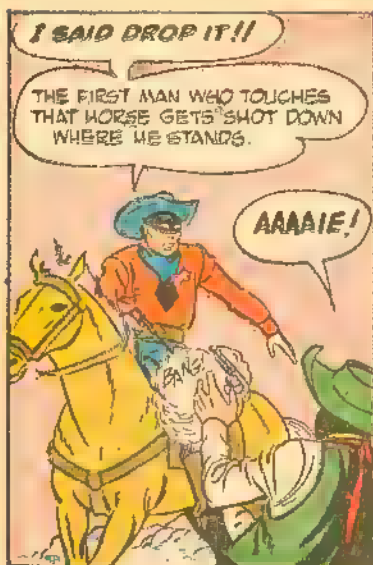
MARSHAL! IT'S A LYNCHIN'! THEY'RE HANGIN' THE GUY WHO KILLED THE KELLEMS BOYS!

THAT BLASTED FOOL MUST'VE COME BACK TO TOWN! C'MON, BUMPER.



DROP THAT GUN, KELLEMS. YOU'RE NOT TAKING THE LAW INTO YOUR OWN HANDS!

HE KILT MY BROTHERS, MARSHAL! NOBODY GONNA STOP ME FROM GETTING REVENGE! KICK THE HORSE OUT, BOYS!





RED FIRE



in "THE PHANTOM PUMA"

A MAN CAN STAND A FLESH AND BLOOD ENEMY, BUT EVEN THE BRAVEST WILL FEEL HIS BLOOD RUN COLD WHEN HE IS THREATENED BY THE **SUPERNATURAL**. RED FIRE KNEW HE HAD TO CALM THE PANICKED MEN, AND HE HAD TO DO IT FAST, BEFORE THE INHUMAN KILLER CLAIMED HIM AS ITS NEXT VICTIM!

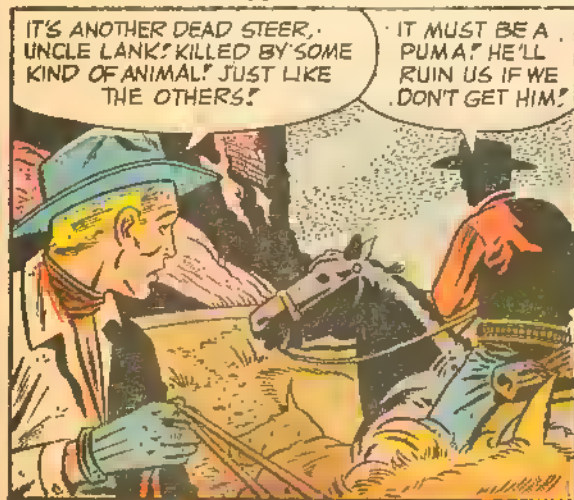
C'MON WOLF! LET'S RIDE, WHITE LIGHTNING! WE'VE GOT A KILLER TO CATCH!



IT WAS ALMOST DUSK, AS LANK MASTERSON AND HIS NEPHEW JESS WERE HEADING FOR THEIR RANCH HOUSE!!!

IT'S ANOTHER DEAD STEER, UNCLE LANK! KILLED BY SOME KIND OF ANIMAL! JUST LIKE THE OTHERS!

IT MUST BE A PUMA! HE'LL RUIN US IF WE DON'T GET HIM!



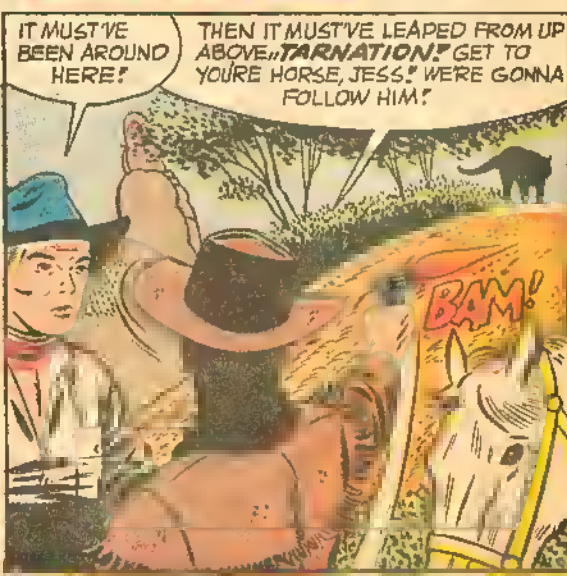
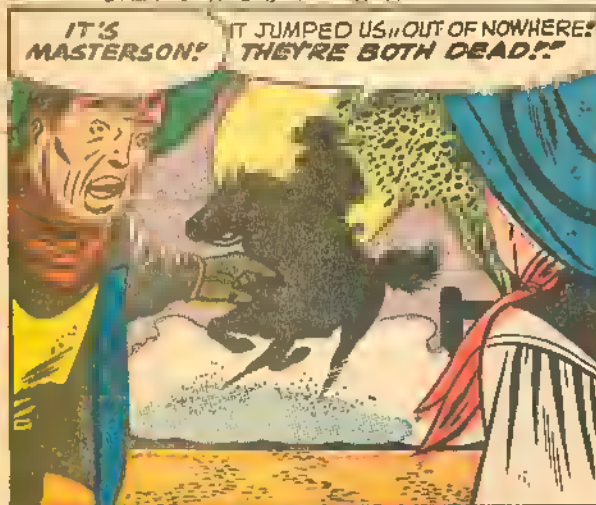
A **PUMA**? WE NEVER HAD ANY PUMAS AROUND HERE!

THEY'LL GO A LONG WAYS WHEN THEY'RE HUNGRY! LET'S GO BOY, WE'VE GOTTA ROUND UP SOME MEN AND HUNT THIS THING DOWN!





THE MEN AT THE RANCH WAITED NERVOUSLY FOR OVER AN HOUR, AND THEN!!!



IT'S GONE! BUT... WHERE?

I DON'T KNOW... BUT IT'S GONNA BE DARK SOON, AND WE'D BETTER BE GETTIN' BACK TO THE RANCH!

IF RED FIRE HADN'T SHOT WHEN HE DID, IT WOULD HAVE GOT US BOTH!

I AIN'T YELLOW, BUT I KNOW WHEN IT'S TIME TO CLEAR OUT!

THE NEXT MORNING...

HELLO, RED FIRE! WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU?

I'D LIKE TO ASK A FAVOR, BEN. CAN I SEE A MAP SHOWING THE LAND AROUND MASTERSON'S RANCH?

THAT'S MASTERSON'S RANCH TO THE SOUTH, AND HAROLD JUDSON OWNS THE LAND JUST NORTH—FROM THE TERRITORY TO THE WICHITA RIVER!

HMMM? DID EITHER ONE EVER TRY TO BUY THE OTHER OUT?

MASTERSON

WICHITA RIVER

JUDSON

SURE, BUT NEITHER WOULD SELL! ANYTHING ELSE I CAN TELL YOU?

NO THANKS, JED. BE SEEN' YOU

JUDSON'S GOTTA BE THE KEY MAN IN THIS! THINK I'LL PAY HIM A CALL

GENERAL STORE

ZEEK

I'M GETTIN' UP A POSSE TO HUNT THE PUMA THAT'S BEEN RAIDING MASTERSON'S RANCH, AND I THOUGHT SOME OF YOUR MEN MIGHT HELP, JUDSON!

THE PUMA HASN'T BOTHERED US AT ALL! BUT THE MEN ARE GETTIN' PLENTY RESTLESS, THOUGH!

IT'S FUNNY THAT LANK MASTERSON WOULD LOSE TWO MEN AND OVER TEN STEERS, AND YOU WOULDN'T BE ATTACKED AT ALL! I HOPE YOUR LUCK HOLDS, JUDSON! YOU'VE GOT A VALUABLE RANCH HERE! I HOPE NOTHIN' HAPPENS TO IT!

DON'T WORRY, RED FIRE... IT WON'T!



THE BIG CAT ATTACKED JUDSON'S RANCH LAST NIGHT! HE LOST A MAN AND FIVE STEERS!

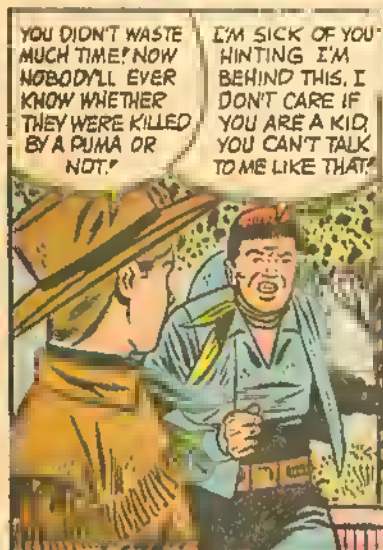
THAT SETTLES IT... THIS LAND'S JINXED! I'M GONNA SELL WHILE THE RANCH IS STILL WORTH SOMETHIN'!

NO, DON'T DO ANYTHING YET! I'VE GOT SOME HUNCHES, BUT I WANT TO SEE JUDSON FIRST!



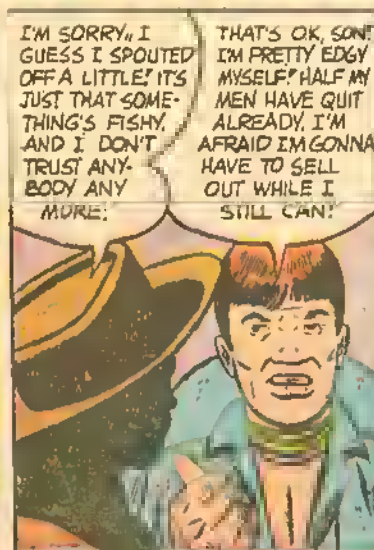
I'M SORRY TO HEAR ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED MR. JUDSON! DO YOU SUPPOSE I COULD LOOK AT THE DEAD STEERS??

WE SLAUGHTERED THEM ALREADY! THE WEATHER'S SO HOT I WAS AFRAID THE MEAT WOULD SPOIL!



YOU DIDN'T WASTE MUCH TIME! NOW NOBODY'LL EVER KNOW WHETHER THEY WERE KILLED BY A PUMA OR NOT!

I'M SICK OF YOU HINTING I'M BEHIND THIS. I DON'T CARE IF YOU ARE A KID, YOU CAN'T TALK TO ME LIKE THAT!



I'M SORRY, I GUESS I SPOUTED OFF A LITTLE! IT'S JUST THAT SOMETHING'S FISHY, AND I DON'T TRUST ANYBODY ANY MORE.

THAT'S OK, SON! I'M PRETTY EDGY MYSELF! HALF MY MEN HAVE QUIT ALREADY. I'M AFRAID I'M GONNA HAVE TO SELL OUT WHILE I STILL CAN!



LATER... ON THE TRAIL!!!

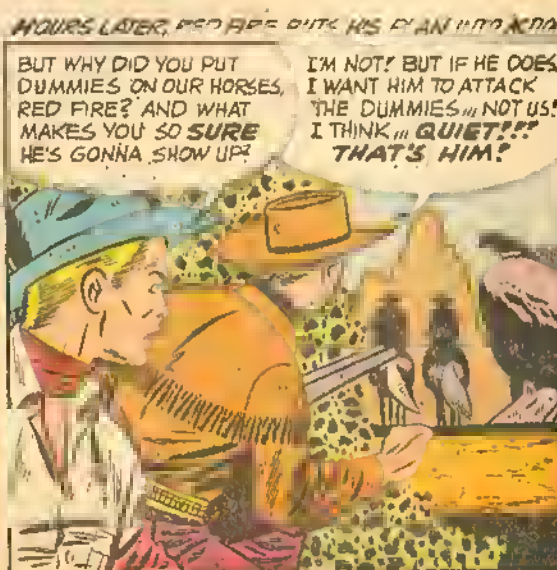
I'M GONNA HAVE TO GET THIS PUMA QUICK "AND I THINK I KNOW HOW!" GET BACK TO THE RANCH AND GET SOME SHOTGUNS!

OKAY... BUT I SURE WISH I KNEW WHAT THIS WAS ALL ABOUT!



WE'RE GOING TO THE PLACE WHERE HE JUMPED YOU! DON'T WORRY, HE WON'T SNEAK UP ON US!

I WISH YOU WOULDN'T DO THIS... IT'S NOT WORTH IT! SOMEBODY WILL GET HIM!



HOURS LATER, RED FIRE PUTS HIS PLAN INTO ACTION

BUT WHY DID YOU PUT DUMMIES ON OUR HORSES, RED FIRE? AND WHAT MAKES YOU SO SURE HE'S GONNA SHOW UP?

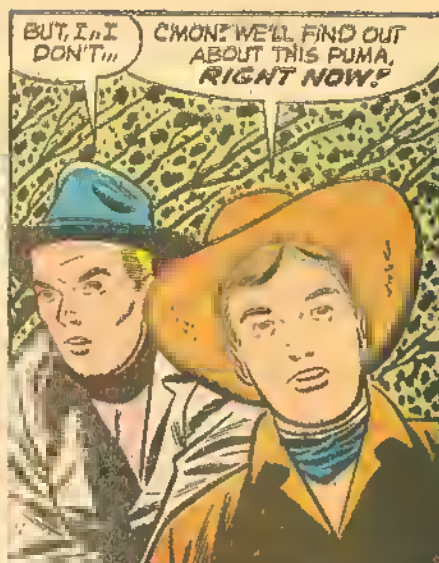
I'M NOT! BUT IF HE DOES, I WANT HIM TO ATTACK THE DUMMIES... NOT US! I THINK... QUIET!!! THAT'S HIM!



WHAT...??



WATCH OUT, RED FIRE! IT'S GOT A GUN!

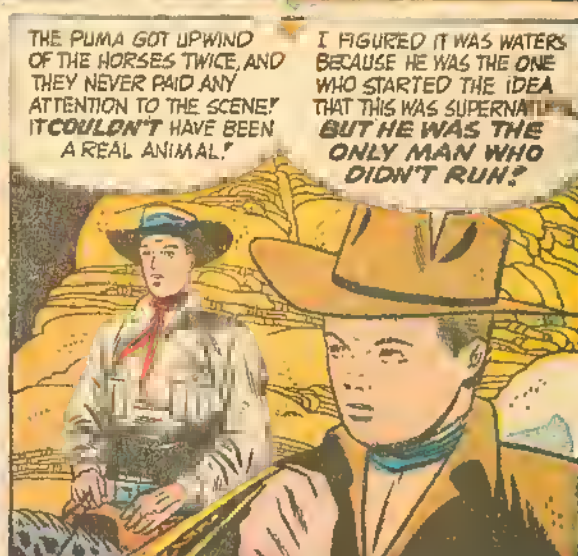


BUT, I... I DON'T...

CMON! WE'LL FIND OUT ABOUT THIS PUMA, RIGHT NOW!



YEAH... IN A PUMA DISGUISE! CMON, LET'S GET HIM TO A DOCTOR!



THE PUMA GOT UPWIND OF THE HORSES TWICE, AND THEY NEVER PAID ANY ATTENTION TO THE SCENE! IT COULDN'T HAVE BEEN A REAL ANIMAL!

I FIGURED IT WAS WATERS BECAUSE HE WAS THE ONE WHO STARTED THE IDEA THAT THIS WAS SUPERNATURAL... BUT HE WAS THE ONLY MAN WHO DIDN'T RUN!



BUT, WHY DID... YIIIIIIII!!

I DON'T WANT TO TELL YOU 'TILL GET OUT OF HERE FAST!

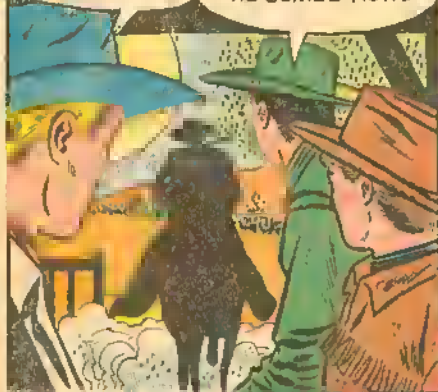


RIDE HARD, JESS! HE WON'T FOLLOW US! HEAD FOR THE RANCH!

RED FIRE AND JESS REACH THE
MASTERTON RANCH SAFELY, AND
THEN, MINUTES LATER...

WHY DOES UNCLE
LANK BE OUT
RIDING AT NIGHT?

I EXPECT HE GOT
WORRIED ABOUT
YOU, JESS. HERE
HE COMES NOW!



THANK GOD
YOU'RE
SAFE! I
HEARD
SHOTS!!

I'M NOT
SURPRISED
MASTERTON.
"SEEN"
YOU
FIRED
THEM!



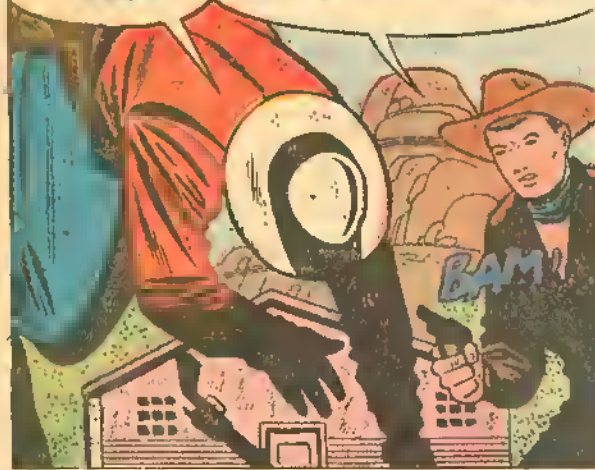
YOU AND WATERS RIGGED
THE WHOLE THING TO TRY
AND SCARE JUDSON OFF
HIS RANCH! **DON'T
DRAW THAT GUN!**

**YOU
TALK
TOO
MUCH!**



NO FRESH KID'S
GONNA...
ARRRGH!

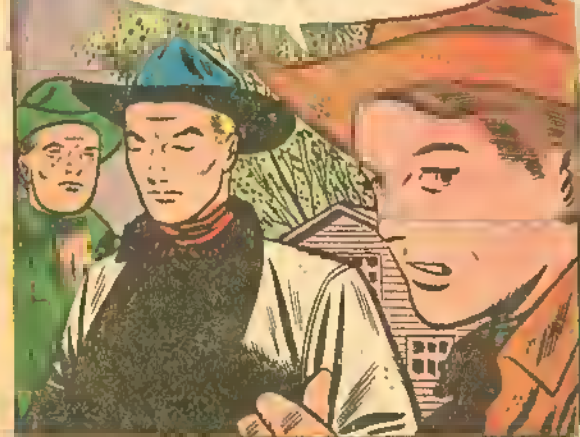
IT'S JUST YOUR SHOULDER,
MASTERTON! YOU'RE LUCKIER
THAN THE TWO MEN YOU MURDERED!



I'M SORRY, JESS... I DIDN'T WANT TO TELL
YOU 'TIL I WAS SURE! I LEARNED FROM THE
DEED'S OFFICE THAT YOUR UNCLE HAD TRIED
TO BUY JUDSON OUT, AND JUDSON WOULDN'T
SELL! HE AND WATERS RIGGED THIS TO
FORCE HIM OUT!



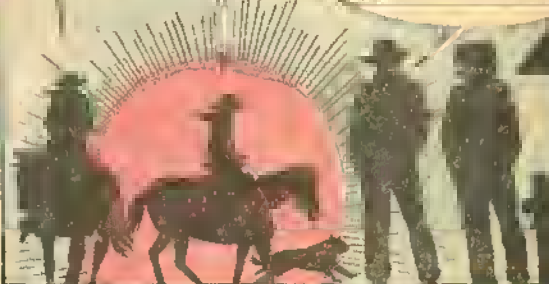
YOUR UNCLE'S LAND HUNGRY, AND HE
WOULDN'T LET JUDSON STAND IN HIS
WAYS! THIS WAY HE'D FORCE DOWN THE
VALUE OF BOTH RANCHES, AND THEN
BUY JUDSON OUT!



YOU'RE
A SMART
KID,
AREN'T
YA?

SMART ENOUGH TO
SEE THAT YOU AND
WATERS STAND
TRIAL FOR **MURDER!**
WANT TO RIDE IN WITH
ME, JESS?

I... I RECKON I'LL
STAY HERE, RED
FIRE. I KIND OF
WANT TO EXPLAIN
THIS TO JUDSON.
MYSELF!
THANKS... RED FIRE
...FOR EVERYTHING!

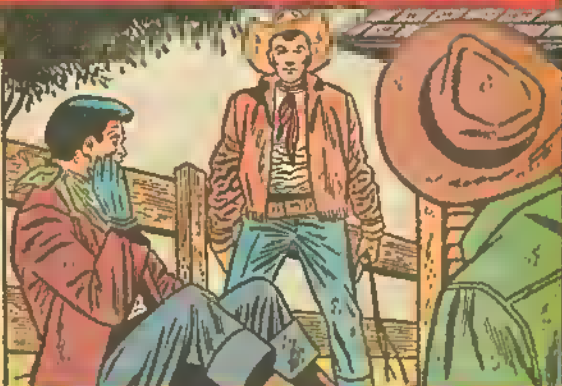
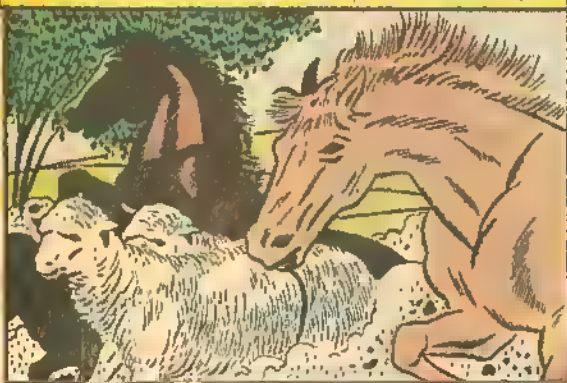


**THE
END.**

Lev Gleason's

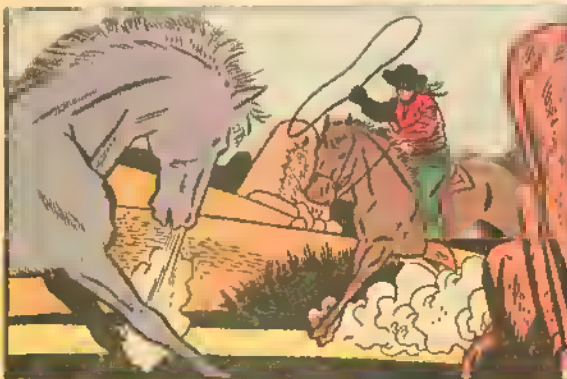
WESTERN LORE

IN THE OLD WEST, SHEEPMEN BECAME THE NATURAL ENEMIES OF THE CATTLEMEN. THIS ENMITY WAS CAUGHT BY THE ANIMALS THEMSELVES. FREQUENTLY, HORSES OR COWS, SMELLING WOOL, WOULD STAMPEDE AND ATTACK THE OFFENDING SHEEP.



COWBOYS RESPECTED THEIR CATTLE AND HORSES. IF A COWBOY WAS UNNECESSARILY CRUEL TO HIS HORSE, HE WOULD BE WHIPPED BY THE OTHER MEN FOR HIS CRUELTY!

A FRIGHTENED WILD HORSE WILL LOSE HIS GOOD JUDGEMENT. HE WILL RUSH UP AGAINST A DANGEROUS BARRIER OR EVEN KILL HIMSELF ONCE CAPTURED. HOWEVER A WILD HORSE ENJOYS THE COMPANY OF HUMAN BEINGS. OF COURSE THE WAY TO OVERCOME A WILD HORSE'S FEAR IS TO FEED HIM.

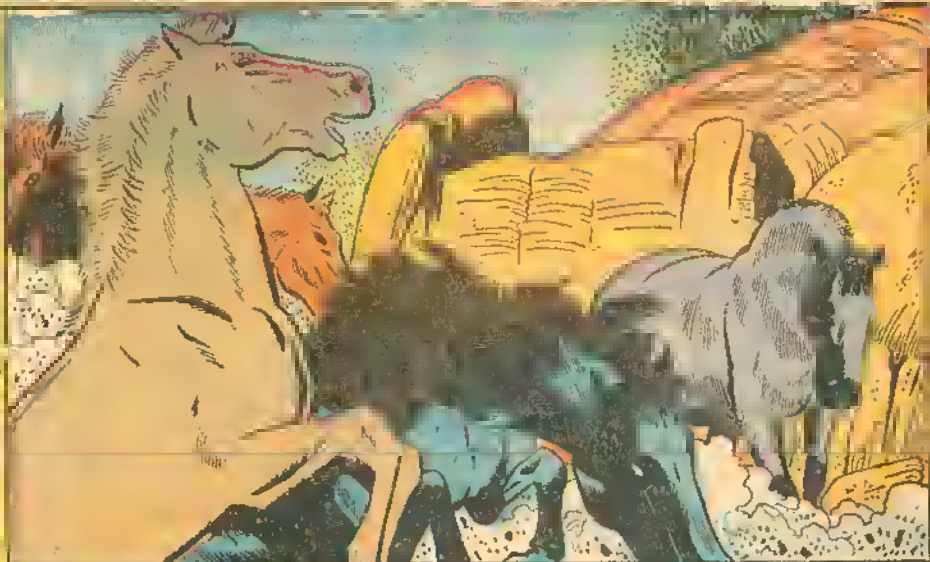


WILD HORSES WERE SOMETIMES CAPTURED BY CHASING THEM UNTIL THEY WERE EXHAUSTED. HUNTERS HAD TO CHANGE MOUNTS TWO OR EVEN THREE TIMES BEFORE HUNTED PRIZE HORSES COULD BE RUN DOWN.

ANOTHER WAY OF CAPTURING A WILD HORSE WAS KNOWN AS "CREASING." THIS MEANT GRAZING THE NECK OF A HORSE WITH A BULLET. THIS SERVED TO STUN THE HORSE COMPLETELY FOR A FEW MINUTES, BUT WOULD DO HIM NO PERMANENT INJURY.



EVERY HERD OF WILD HORSES HAD A LEADER, A FIGHTING STALLION. HE WAS AN EXCELLENT 'COWBOY', DIRECTING HIS BAND BY NIPPING AT THE FLANKS OF THOSE HORSES WHO DIDN'T KEEP IN LINE. HE WOULD FIND DRINKING WATER AND HIDE-OUTS; WAS ALWAYS THE LAST TO DRINK. THE STALLION RETAINED HIS LEADERSHIP ONLY SO LONG AS HE COULD FIGHT OFF AN ATTACK OF ANY CHALLENGING HORSE.



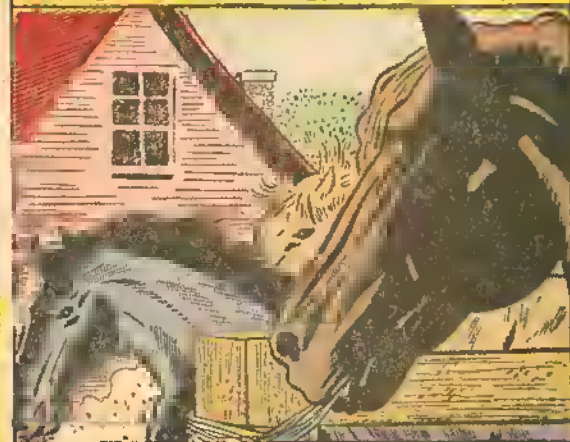
THE WESTERNER'S BEST FRIEND WAS HIS HORSE. FREQUENTLY, A HORSE WOULD GIVE UP HIS LIFE DEFENDING HIS MASTER. ONE HORSE, ALMOST COMPLETELY EXHAUSTED, HIS SADDLE BADLY BLOOD-STAINED, WALKED INTO A HOUSE, NIPPED THE SHOULDER OF THE HOMEOWNER, IN ORDER TO GET HIM TO BRING AID TO A WOUNDED RIDER.

THE COWBOY HAD TO BE READY FOR ACTION AT A MOMENT'S NOTICE. HE WOULD SLEEP FULLY DRESSED WITH A LARIAT AROUND HIM TIED TO HIS HORSE. IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY--STAMPEDE OR INDIAN ATTACK, THE RUSH OF A HORSE WOULD GET A COWBOY INTO ALMOST IMMEDIATE ACTION!



WHAT WILL A WILD HORSE DO IN ORDER TO AVOID CAPTURE? ON OCCASION, SUCH HORSES HAVE PREFERRED SUICIDE! ONE WESTERNER RELATES HOW A WILD HORSE, CORNERED NEAR THE GRAND CANYON CHOSE PLUNGING TO HIS DEATH OVER A CLIFF, RATHER THAN BE TAKEN BY A MAN ON FOOT!

CLUSIVE WILD HORSES USED VARIOUS MEANS TO INCREASE THE SIZE OF THEIR BANDS. THEY WOULD ATTACK OTHER WILD GROUPS OF HORSES. ON OCCASION, THEY WOULD VISIT RANCHES AND INDUCE TAME HORSES TO ESCAPE!



\$7.18 WORTH of STAMPS

All yours for **25¢**

GUARANTEED CATALOG VALUE

GIANT IMPORTED COLLECTION OF 338 Different STAMPS

LOOK AT
A FEW
OF THE
FASCINATING
AND
UNUSUAL
STAMPS
AND SETS
YOU GET:



SPAIN—IBERIA
AIRMAILS SET OF 3



CROATIA
Gov't-In-Exile
Set of 6 Giant Multi-Colored Triangles
— picturing exotic birds and flowers!



ISRAEL
Beautiful
Jumping
Stag



ESTONIA
Nat'l-issued
"Darpal"
set of 6
complete!
Hard to get!



Bosnia-
Herzegovina
1917 Assassination set of 1!



ALBANIA—Double
Eagle Set of 11
Imperforates cpl.



BOLIVIA
3 Action-Packed
Sport Stamps



GERMANY Allied
Military Gov't
Set complete

YOU GET all of the pictured items — PLUS hundreds of other exciting and hard-to-get stamps and sets from all over the world! A grand total of 338 all-different stamps — guaranteed catalog value over \$7.18 — all for only 25¢! You'll have hours and days of fun just looking through this wonderful collection and you'll fill hundreds of blank spaces in your album at the amazing bargain rate of 13 stamps for just 1¢! And if you're a beginner — here's a fine start on the most popular hobby in America — at a tiny cost!

SUPPLY LIMITED! MAIL COUPON NOW!

We're making this sensational offer to introduce you to our famous Bargain Approvals — which we'll send you for free examination. But hurry! The supply of these bargain packets is necessarily limited — once the stamps shown here are gone, there just won't be any more! Mail coupon at once... or if the coupon has been clipped send your name and address with 25¢ direct to:

ZENITH CO., Dept. HS-4, 81 Willoughby St., Brooklyn 1, N. Y.

FREE! MIDGET ENCYCLOPEDIA OF STAMPS

Our famous Midget Encyclopedia tells you everything you want to know to enjoy this wonderful hobby! PLUS the Stamp Dictionary — listing definitions of every term used by collectors. PLUS Stamp Identifier which shows you how to identify thousands of foreign stamps. ALL FREE with this special bargain offer!



ZENITH CO., Dept. HS-4
81 Willoughby St., Brooklyn 1, N. Y.

Here's my 25¢. Send me entire collection described in this ad—338 all-different stamps—plus FREE "Midget Encyclopedia of Stamps." Include, for free examination, your latest Bargain Approvals.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zone _____ State _____

ZENITH CO., 81 Willoughby St., Brooklyn 1, N. Y.

NEW CATALOG of 3100 Novelties 10c

**World's Greatest Collection of Novel-
ties to Thrill & Amuse You**

Send 10c today for this amazing new catalog of 3100 novelties, gadgets, tricks, jokes, funmakers, hobbies—and thousands of things you never knew existed & never knew where to get! Hundreds of useful items, too, including office and household time-savers, educational hobbies, jewelry, optical and sports goods, etc.

Some of the Things In This Catalog:

[illegible]

CATALOG
OF

3.100 VELTIES

**JOKES
TRICKS
GADGETS
FUN MAKERS
ETC., ETC**

SEND**COUPON**

and 10c

TODAY!

Rush Coupon, Print Name & Address-

JOHNSON SMITH & COMPANY
Dept. 933, Detroit 7, Michigan

Please Send Me: _____ Catalogs—10c Each

Send To

"MOST UNUSUAL CATALOG IN THE WORLD"

Colliers, Coronet, New Yorker, Tide & other magazines wrote about this interesting catalog. More fun than carnival, circus, world's fair & science exhibit all in one. SEND 10c WITH YOUR NAME & ADDRESS for YOUR COPY 10c

Johnson Smith & Co., Dept. 933, Detroit 7, Mich.



I WILL TRAIN YOU AT HOME FOR GOOD PAY JOBS IN RADIO-TELEVISION

J. E. SMITH has trained more men for Radio-Television than any other man. OUR 40TH YEAR.

**America's Fast Growing Industry Offers
You Good Pay—Bright Future—Security**

**2 FREE BOOKS
SHOW HOW
MAIL COUPON**

I TRAINED THESE MEN



"Started to repair sets six months after enrolling. Earned \$12 to \$15 a week in spare time."—Adam Kramlik, Jr., Sunnyside, Pennsylvania.



"Up to our necks in Radio-Television work. Four other NRI men work here. Am happy with my work."—Glen Peterson, Bradford, Ont., Canada.



"Am doing Radio and Television Servicing full time. Now have my own shop. I owe my success to N.R.I."—Curtis Stath, Ft. Madison, Iowa.



"Am with WCOC. NRI course can't be beat. No trouble passing 1st class Radio-phone license exam."—Jesse W. Parker, Meridian, Mississippi.



"By graduation, had paid for course, car, testing equipment. Can service toughest jobs."—E. J. Streitenberger, New Boston, Ohio.

**AVAILABLE TO
VETERANS
UNDER G.I. BILLS**

Training plus opportunity is the **PERFECT COMBINATION** for job security, good pay, advancement. In good times, the trained man makes the **BETTER PAY, GETS PROMOTED**. When jobs are scarce, the trained man enjoys **GREATER SECURITY**. NRI training can help assure you more of the better things of life.

**Start Soon to Make \$10, \$15
a Week Extra Fixing Sets**

Keep your job while training. I start sending you special booklets that show you how to fix sets the day you enroll. Multitester built with parts I send helps you make \$10, \$15 a week extra fixing sets while training. Many start their own Radio-Television business with spare time earnings.

My Training Is Up-To-Date

You benefit by my 40 years' experience training men at home. Well illustrated lessons give you basic principles you need. Skillfully developed kits of parts I send (see below) "bring to life" things you learn from lessons.

You Learn by Practicing with Parts I Send

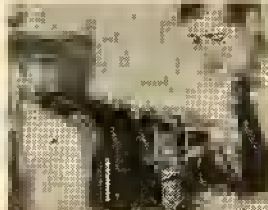
Nothing takes the place of **PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE**. That's why NRI training is based on **LEARNING BY DOING**. You use parts I furnish to build many circuits common to Radio and Television. As part of my Communications Course, you build many things, including low power transmitter shown at left. You put it "on the air," perform procedures required of broadcasting operators. With my

Servicing Course you build modern Radio, etc. Use Multitester you build to make money fixing sets. Many students make \$10, \$15 week extra fixing neighbors' sets in spare time while training. Coupon below will bring book showing other equipment you build. It's all yours to keep.

**The Tested Way
To Better Pay!**



Television Making Good Jobs, Prosperity—Even without Television, Radio is bigger than ever. 115 million home and auto Radios to be serviced. Over 3000 Radio broadcasting stations use operators, technicians, engineers. Government, Aviation, Police, Ship, Micro-wave Relay, Two-Way Radio Communications for buses, taxis, trucks, etc., are important and growing fields. Television is moving ahead fast.



About 200 Television stations are now on the air. Hundreds of others being built. Good TV jobs opening up for Technicians, Operators, etc.

25 million homes now have Television sets. Thousands more are being sold every week. Get a job or have your own business selling, installing, servicing.

Radio-TV Needs Men of Action—Mail Coupon

Act now to get more of the good things of life. Actual lesson proves my training is practical, thorough. 64-page book shows good job opportunities for you in many fields. Take NRI training for as little as \$5 a month. Many graduates make more than total cost of training in two weeks. Mail coupon now. J. E. SMITH, President, National Radio Institute, Dept. 5AM, Washington 9, D. C. OUR 40TH YEAR.

Good for Both—FREE

MR. J. E. SMITH, President, Dept. 5AM
National Radio Institute, Washington 9, D. C.
Mail me Sample Lesson and 64-page Book, FREE.
(No salesman will call. Please write plainly.)

Name _____ Age _____

Address _____

City _____ Zone _____ State _____

VETS write in date of discharge _____

**The ABCs of
SERVICING**

**How to Be a
Success
in RADIO
TELEVISION**

GET PRIZES... MAKE MONEY

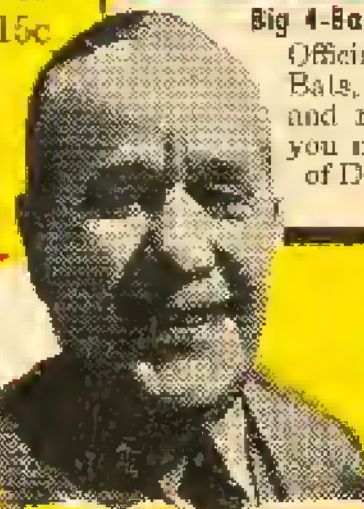
Look at the wonderful prizes shown below. They are just a few of the more than 70 I offer you **WITHOUT ONE CENT OF COST**. You take your choice for selling just one order of 40 packs of American Vegetable and Flower



EBONY and SILVER CLARINET
with Music Book and Carrying Case

Seeds at 15c a pack.

"Uncle" Harry Bard, the man who has been helping boys and girls earn **PRIZES** and extra **CASH** for 37 years.



BE FIRST IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

Everybody wants American Seeds—they are fresh and ready to grow. You will sell them quickly to your family, friends and neighbors and get your prize at once. Thousands of boys and girls have been earning prizes this easy way for 37 years. Paste coupon on postcard or mail in envelope for your order of American Seeds. When sold, send us the money and choose your prize. Or, keep \$2.00 in cash for each 40-pack order you sell.

SEND NO MONEY, I TRUST YOU.
AMERICAN SEED COMPANY
DEPT. 505, LANCASTER, PA.

MAIL THIS COUPON Today

"Uncle" Harry Bard, AMERICAN SEED COMPANY
DEPT. 505, LANCASTER, PA.

Please send me your **BIG PRIZE BOOK** and one order of 40 packs of **AMERICAN SEEDS**. I will resell them at 15c a pack, send you the money and choose my prize.

Name _____

Address _____

Town _____

State _____



Big 4-Bat TABLE TENNIS SET
Official size set with 4 Bats, 2 Balls, net, posts and rules of play. All you need for the game of Doubles or Singles.



GIRLS' OR LADIES' SHOULDER STRAP BAG

Available in Red, Green, Navy, Blue or Brown.



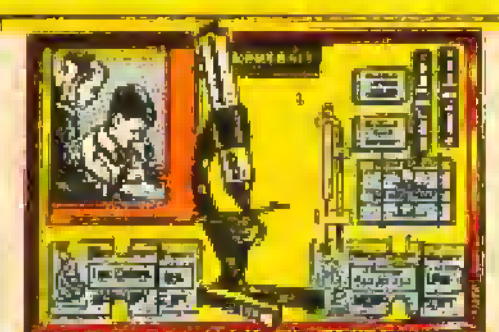
Full-Size PUP TENT

Includes Poles, Pegs and strong center rope. Sleeps two boys comfortably.



AIR CHAMP RADIO KIT

A genuine crystal radio. Build it. Use it. Listen to your favorite radio program.

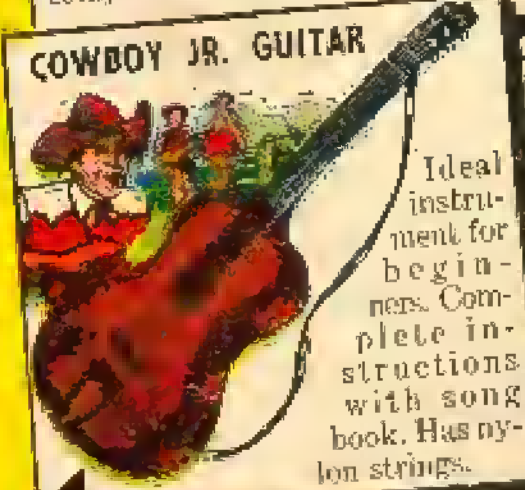
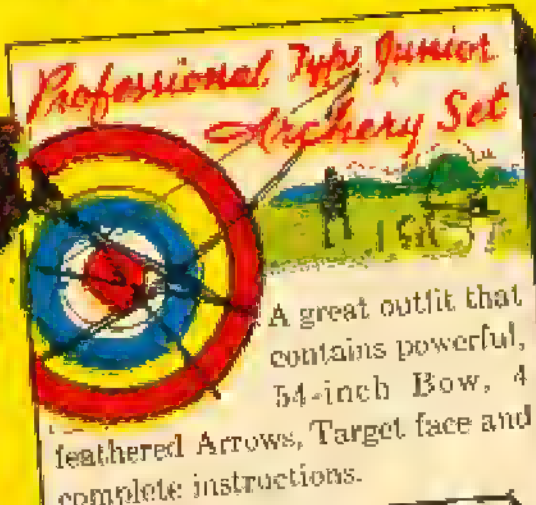


Complete MICROSCOPE OUTFIT

A precision-built Microscope Outfit. Has 60 power optical lens, slide glass and specimens. Don't miss this great outfit.

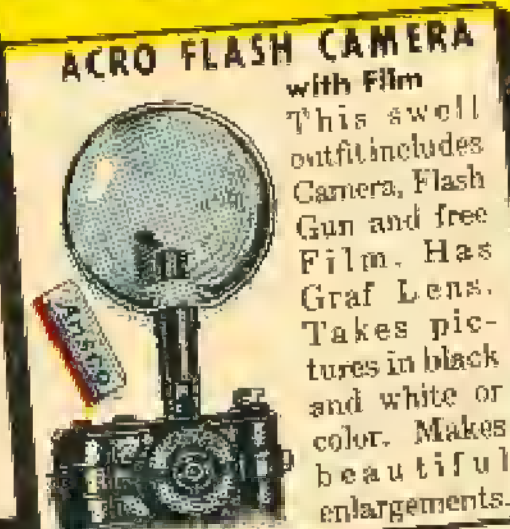
I'll Give You a Wrist Watch, Archery Set, Flash Camera or any of **70 BIG PRIZES**

without a cent of cost... **MAIL Coupon for FREE Prize Book**



COWBOY JR. GUITAR

Ideal instrument for beginners. Complete instructions with song book. Has nylon strings.



ACRO FLASH CAMERA

with Film
This swell outfit includes Camera, Flash Gun and free Film. Has Graf Lens. Takes pictures in black and white or color. Makes beautiful enlargements.



PRETTY TRAVEL CASE

Overnight Case with removable tray. Has mirror, look and key.



GRALETT WRIST WATCH

for Boys and Girls
A Guaranteed watch. Handsome Chromium case, unbreakable crystal, genuine leather strap. This attractive wrist watch is given without cost.



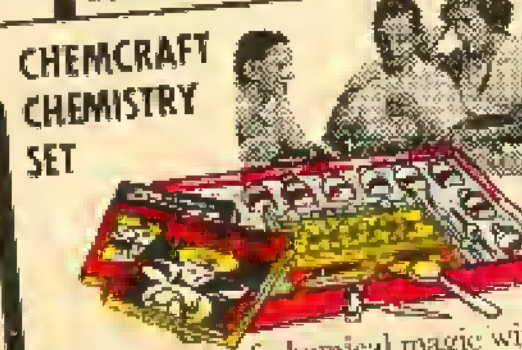
GOLD-PLATED LOCKET SET

With necklace, matching expansion bracelet. Each locket opens, holds two photographs.



OFFICIAL SIZE BASKETBALL

Sturdy, valve-type Ball. Official size—Official weight. Made with natural rubber. For indoor or outdoor use.



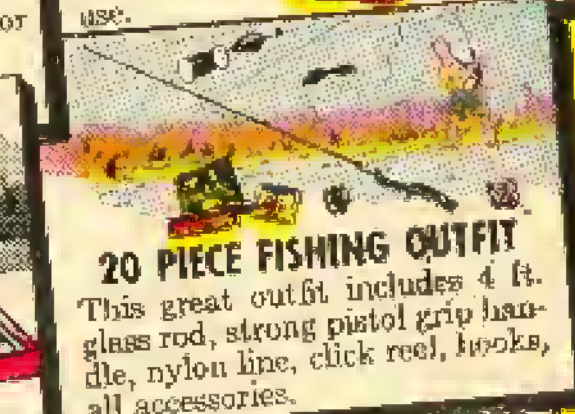
CHEM-CRAFT CHEMISTRY SET

Perform feats of chemical magic with this new Chemcraft Chemistry Set. Magic Book, instructions included.



KNIFE-TOOL OUTFIT

Deluxe knife-tool combination in pocket-size carrying case. Tools lock into knife for instant use.



20 PIECE FISHING OUTFIT

This great outfit includes 4 ft. glass rod, strong pistol grip handle, nylon line, click reel, hooks, all accessories.



DAISY'S DELUXE TRAINING RIFLE

Daisy's "Big Bang"—loudest play gun. Shoots smoke and noise only. Harmless. Styled like Daisy's famous Air Rifles.

MAIL THIS COUPON... SELL AMERICAN SEEDS AND EARN PRIZES LIKE THESE